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ABSTRACT

These activity packets were designed for use with preschool and kindergarten children in Hickory, North Carolina to assist in the link between school and home. As parents use these games to play with their child at home to reinforce what is being learned at school, parents will also learn a more appropriate way to "teach" their child than through worksheets and drill. The publication contains teacher directions for making each activity packet, with a list of materials required to complete the games. Also included are master copies to use in making one set of packets, with parent directions and patterns. The 35 packets cover skills in math, matching, and language development, with the latter activities incorporating several children's books. (EV)

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Take-Home Activity Packets

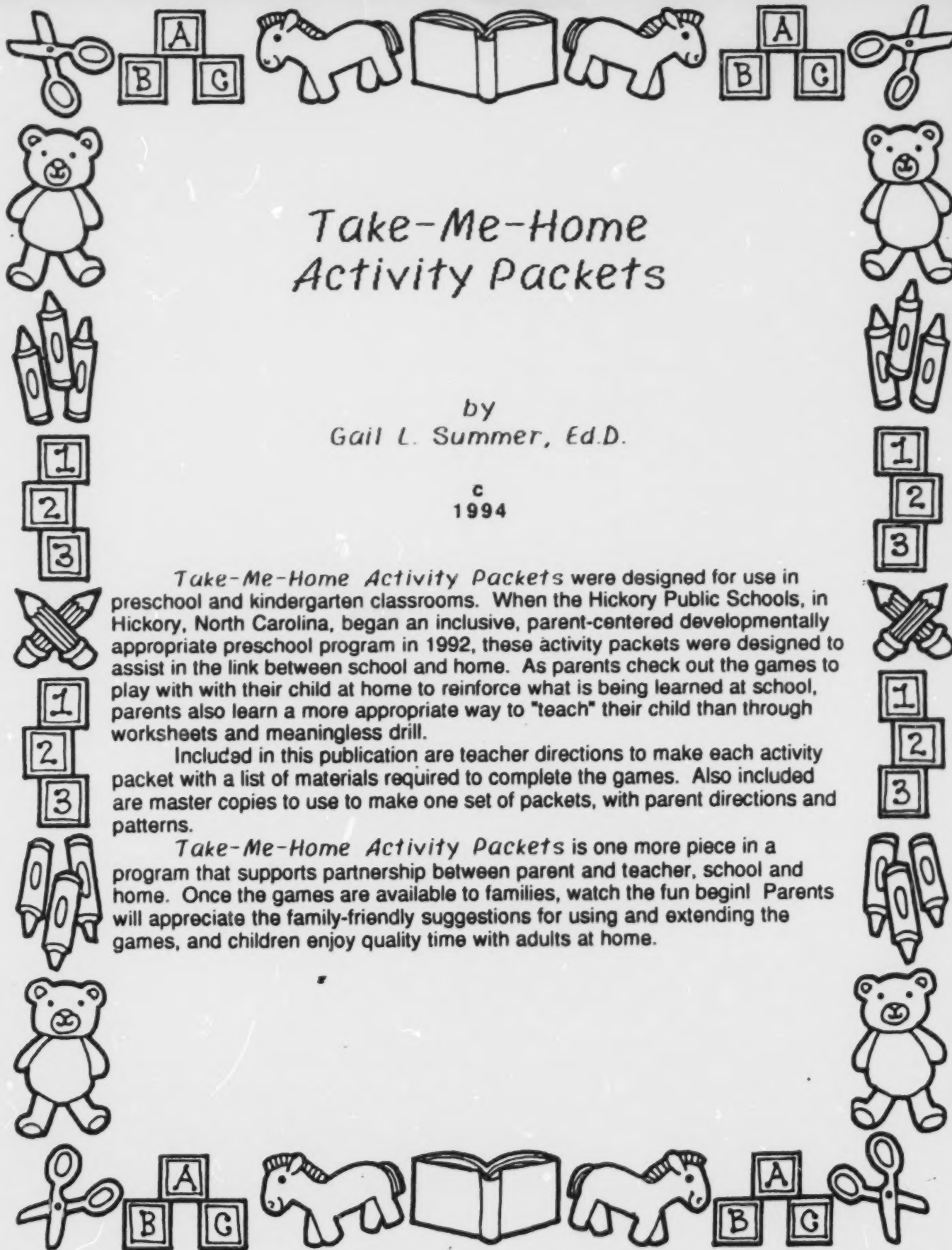
Parent-Child Games for Learning

by

Gail L.
Summer

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Gail L. Summer, Ed.D.



Take-Me-Home Activity Packets

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Gail L. Summer, Ed.D.

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Take-Me-Home Activity Packets were designed for use in preschool and kindergarten classrooms. When the Hickory Public Schools, in Hickory, North Carolina, began an inclusive, parent-centered developmentally appropriate preschool program in 1992, these activity packets were designed to assist in the link between school and home. As parents check out the games to play with with their child at home to reinforce what is being learned at school, parents also learn a more appropriate way to "teach" their child than through worksheets and meaningless drill.

Included in this publication are teacher directions to make each activity packet with a list of materials required to complete the games. Also included are master copies to use to make one set of packets, with parent directions and patterns.

Take-Me-Home Activity Packets is one more piece in a program that supports partnership between parent and teacher, school and home. Once the games are available to families, watch the fun begin! Parents will appreciate the family-friendly suggestions for using and extending the games, and children enjoy quality time with adults at home.



Take-Me-Home Activity Packets

Table of Contents/Skill List

Math Activities

- One-to-one matching (3 activity packets)
- Sets: recognizing more and less (4 activity packets)
- Sets: making one-to-one sets to ten (2 activity packets)
- Sets: counting sets to ten (5 activity packets)
- Numerals: matching numerals 1- 10 (2 activity packets)
- Numerical order (2 activity packets)
- Seriation: ordering three things by size
- Seriation: ordering five things by size

Matching Activities

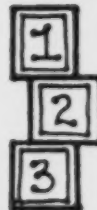
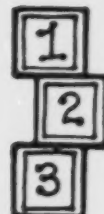
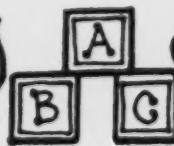
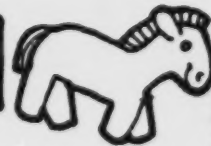
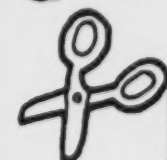
- Visual discrimination: matching pictures (4 activity packets)
- Sorting: shapes
- Matching shapes to outlines
- Matching drawn shapes
- Recognizing objects and their shape
- Sorting shapes by color
- Sorting objects by where they belong: farm and city
- Sorting by size and color
- Sorting by two categories
- Sorting with graphs (3 activity packets)

Language Activities

- Go-togethers (2 activity packets)
- Sequencing story cards (2 activity packets)
- Literature packets:
 - Goldilocks and the Three Bears*
 - The Napping House*
 - The Turnip*
 - The Three Billy Goats Gruff*
 - Brown Bear, Brown Bear*
 - The Mitten*

Recognizing letters (3 activity packets)

Open Activities (for you to program) (6 activity packets)





Take-Home Activity

One-to-one Matching

When children are learning that certain things go together, they also are learning that certain things go in one-to-one pairs. It is important for children to be able to match sets one-to-one in order to determine whether two sets are equal.

Materials in this packet:

- 10 dogs
- 10 doghouses

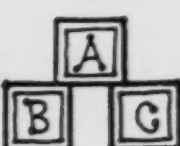
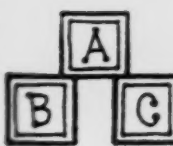
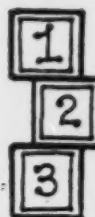
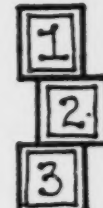
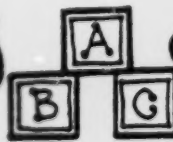
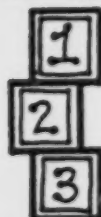
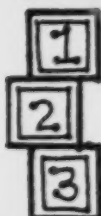
How to play with your child:

Take the dogs and doghouses out of the packet. Line up the doghouses in a row. Count how many doghouses there are with your child. Encourage your child to match the dogs to the doghouses so each doghouse has a dog.

After matching the dogs and doghouses, hide one of the dogs and let your child play again. When your child matches dogs to doghouses this time, there won't be enough dogs for all the doghouses. Ask your child to tell you how many more dogs he needs in order to have enough dogs for all the doghouses. Play again.

Extension:

Your child needs an understanding of one-to-one matching every time he helps set the table. Ask your child how many plates you'll need for dinner if there are five people in your family. How many spoons, knives, and forks will you need? Let your child help set the table every night!

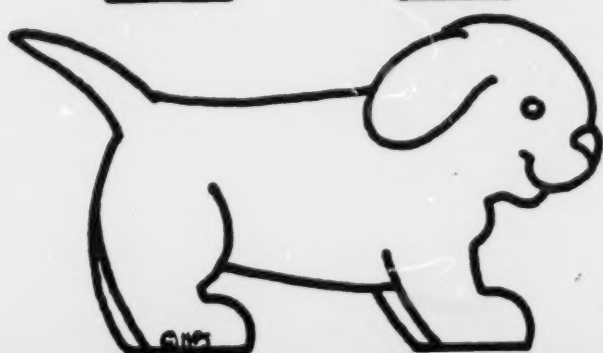
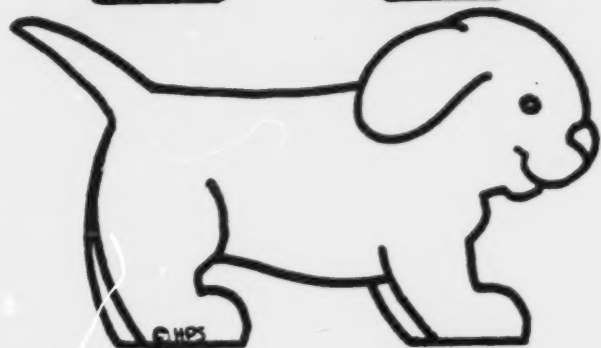


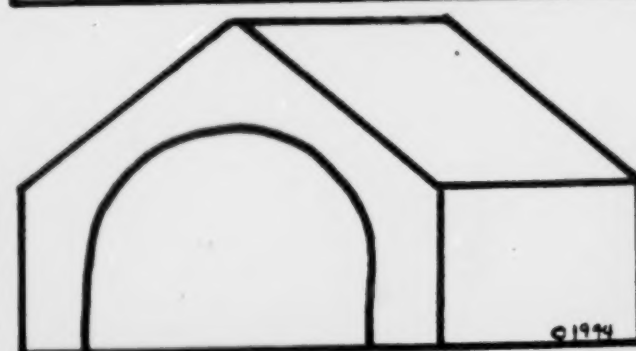
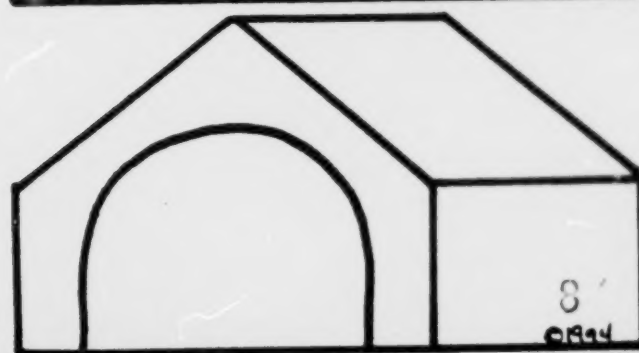
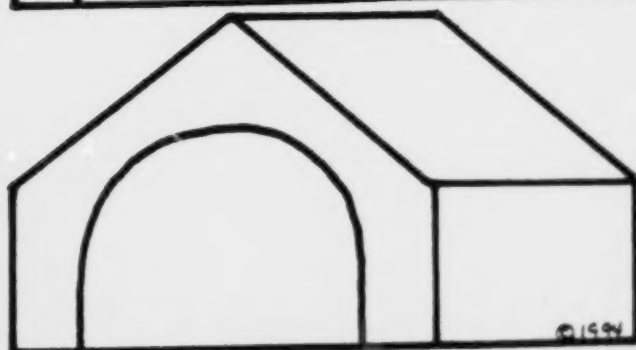
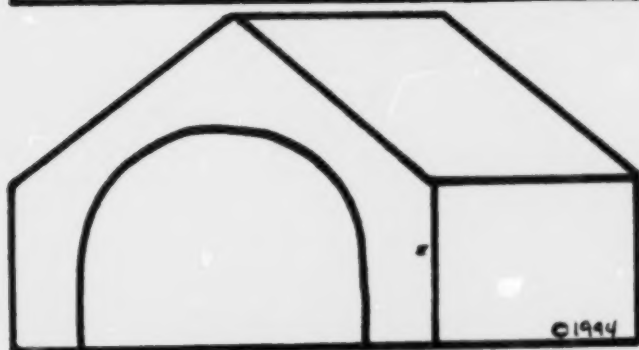
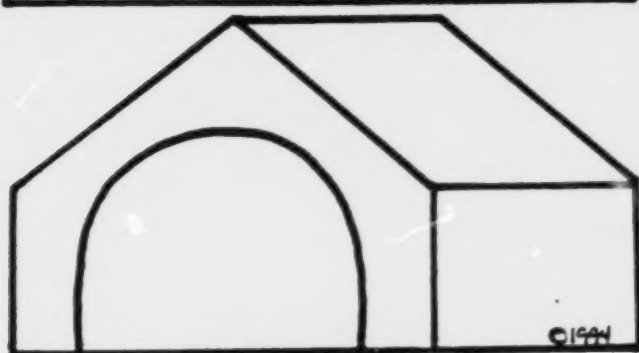
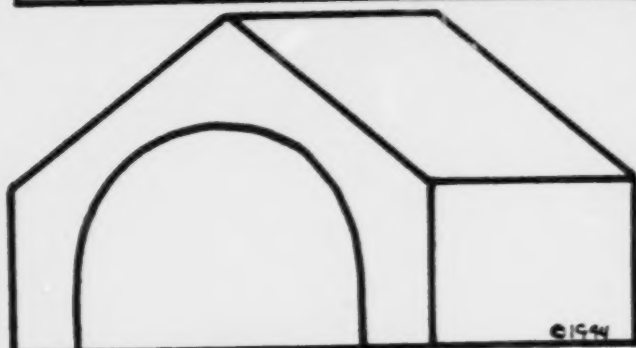
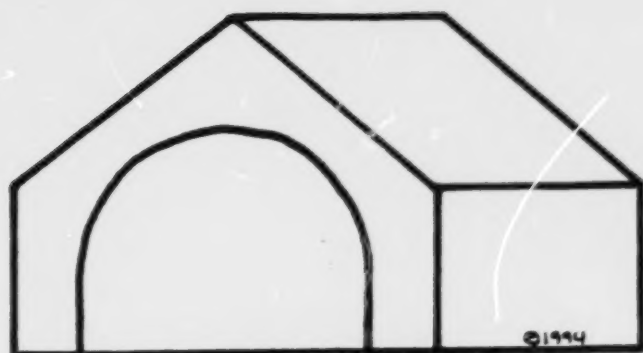
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the car page
1 copy of the garage page

Directions:

1. Laminate the car and garage pages.
2. Cut out the cars and garages.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.







Take-Home Activity

One-to-one Matching

When children are learning that certain things go together, they also are learning that certain things go in one-to-one pairs. It is important for children to be able to match sets one-to-one in order to determine whether two sets are equal.

Materials in this packet:

- 10 cars
- 10 garages

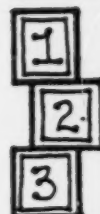
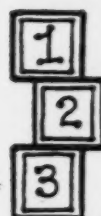
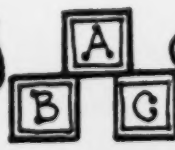
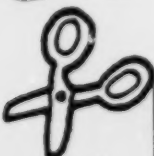
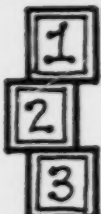
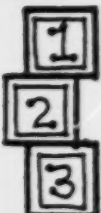
How to play with your child:

Take the cars and garages out of the packet. Line up the garages in a row. Count how many garages there are with your child. Encourage your child to match the cars to the garages so each garage has a car.

After matching the cars and garages, hide one of the cars and let your child play again. When your child matches cars to garages this time, there won't be enough cars for all the garages. Ask your child to tell you how many more cars he needs in order to have enough cars for all the garages. Play again.

Extension:

You can match sets with toy cars and boxes at home too. Also try matching shoes and socks. There are many sets of items at home to match one-to-one. See how many you and your child can find.

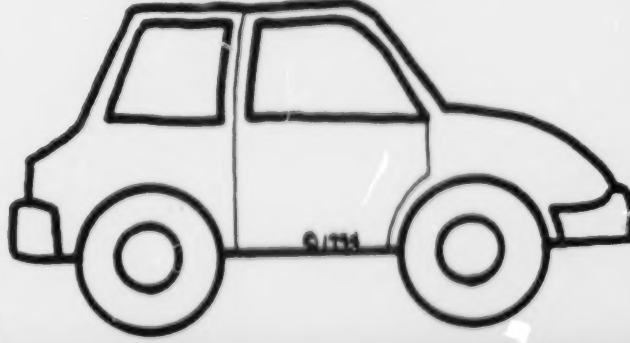
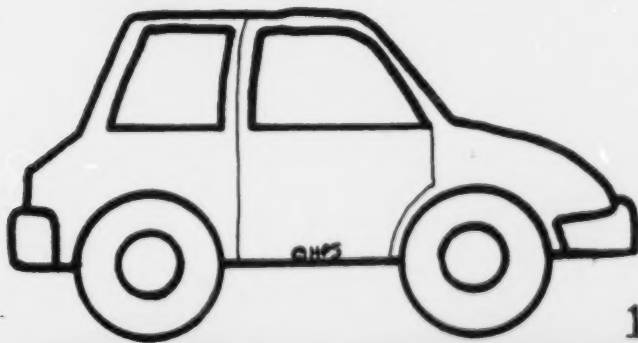
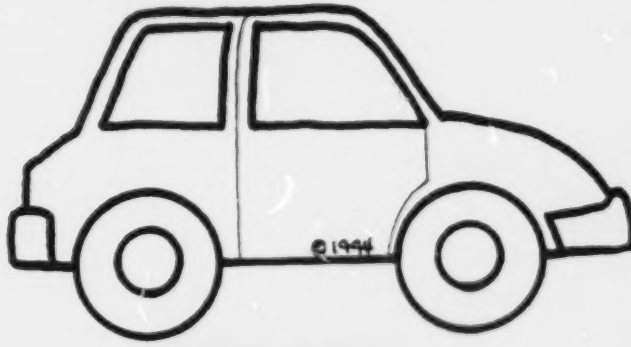
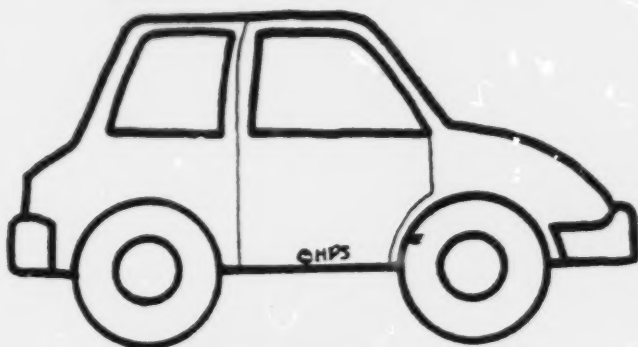
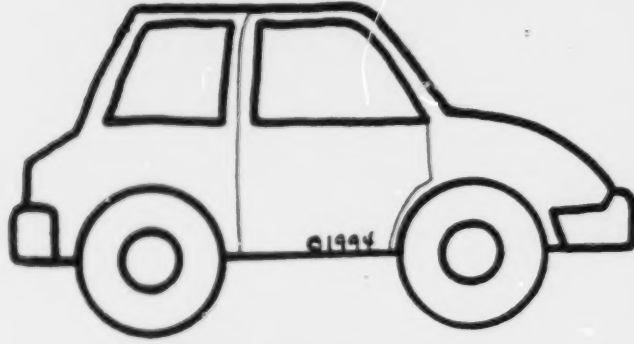
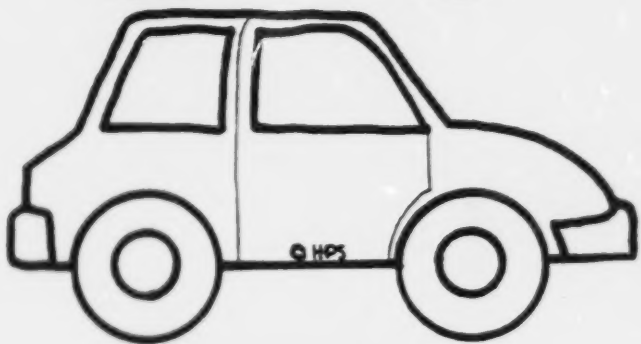
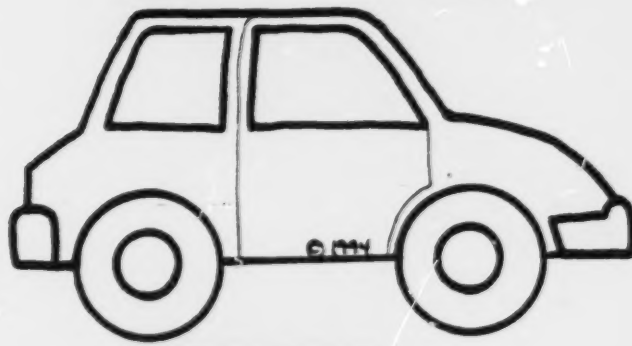
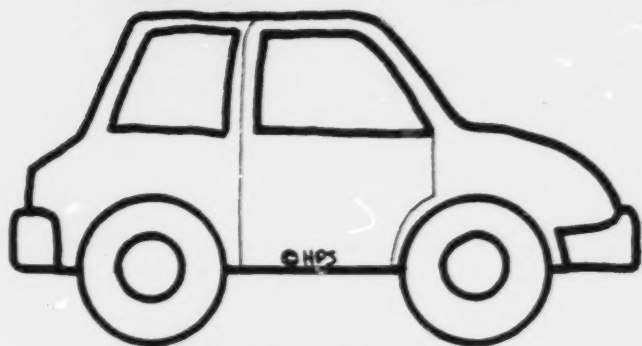
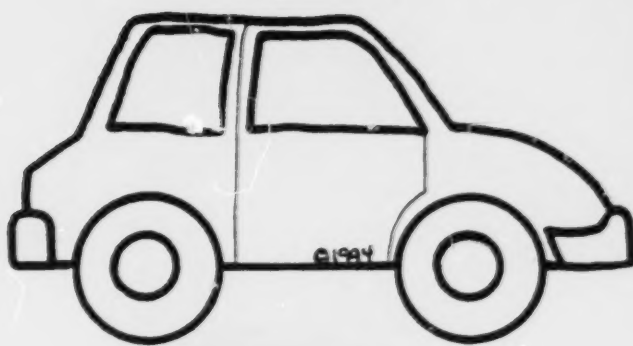


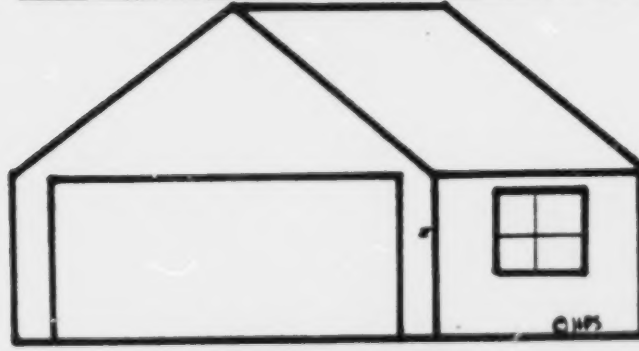
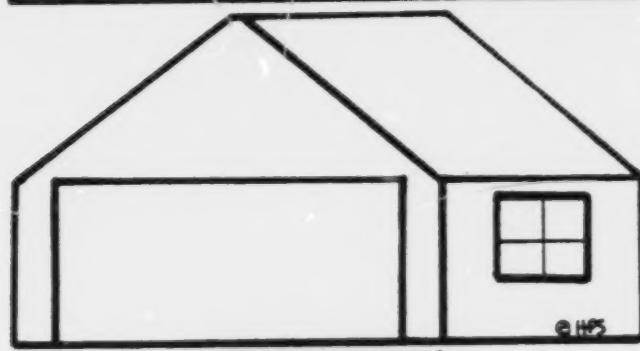
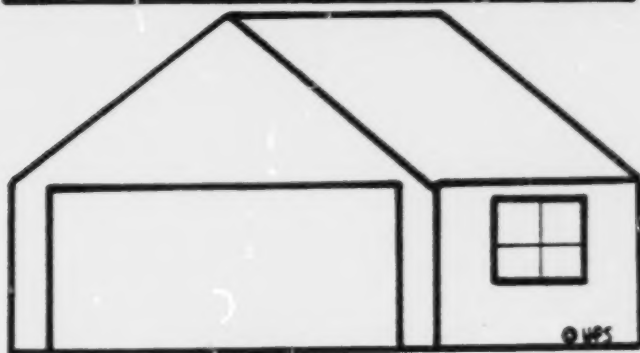
To make the game:

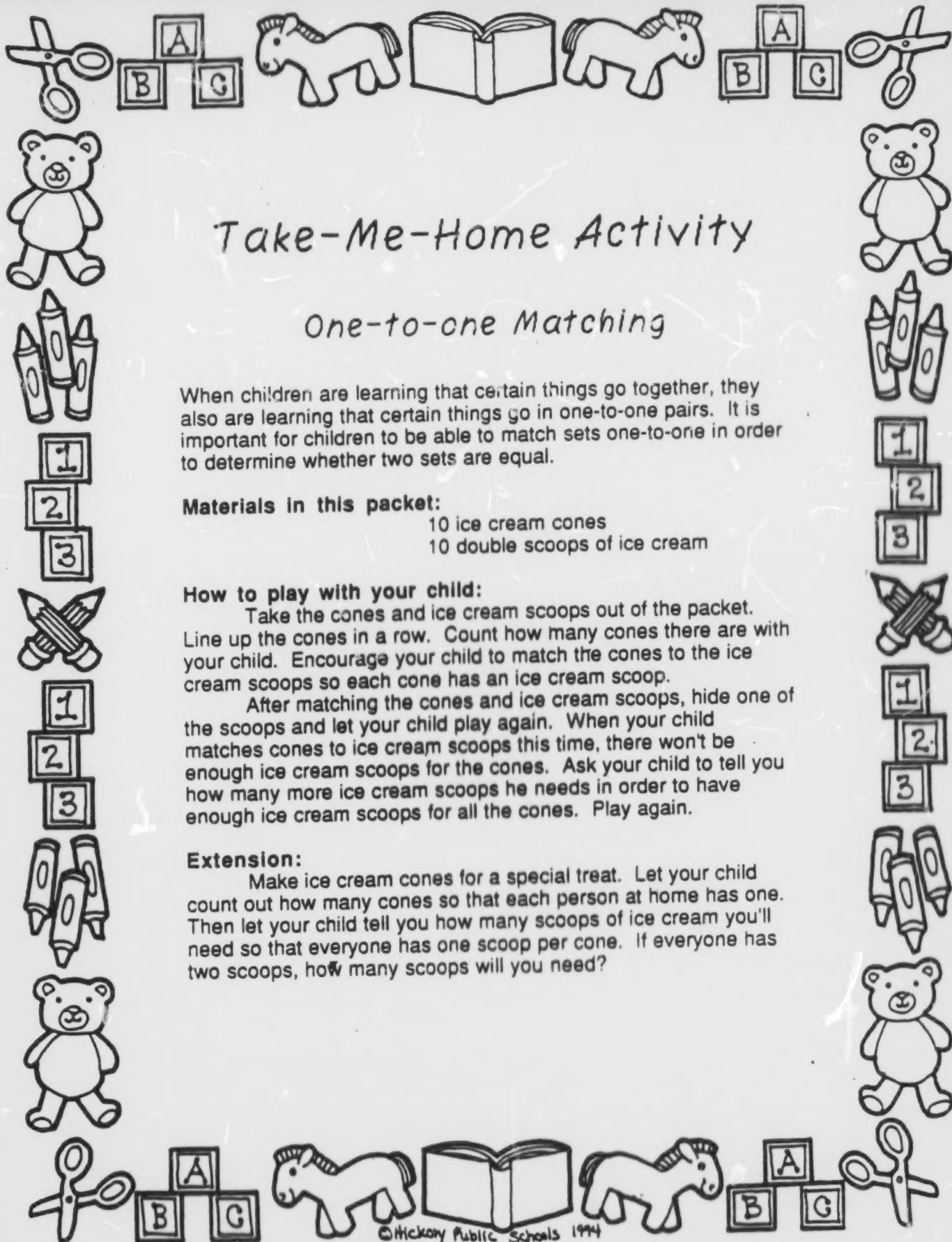
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the dog page
1 copy of the dog house page

Directions:

1. Laminate the dog and doghouse pages.
2. Cut out the dogs and doghouses.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.







Take-Home Activity

One-to-one Matching

When children are learning that certain things go together, they also are learning that certain things go in one-to-one pairs. It is important for children to be able to match sets one-to-one in order to determine whether two sets are equal.

Materials In this packet:

- 10 ice cream cones
- 10 double scoops of ice cream

How to play with your child:

Take the cones and ice cream scoops out of the packet. Line up the cones in a row. Count how many cones there are with your child. Encourage your child to match the cones to the ice cream scoops so each cone has an ice cream scoop.

After matching the cones and ice cream scoops, hide one of the scoops and let your child play again. When your child matches cones to ice cream scoops this time, there won't be enough ice cream scoops for the cones. Ask your child to tell you how many more ice cream scoops he needs in order to have enough ice cream scoops for all the cones. Play again.

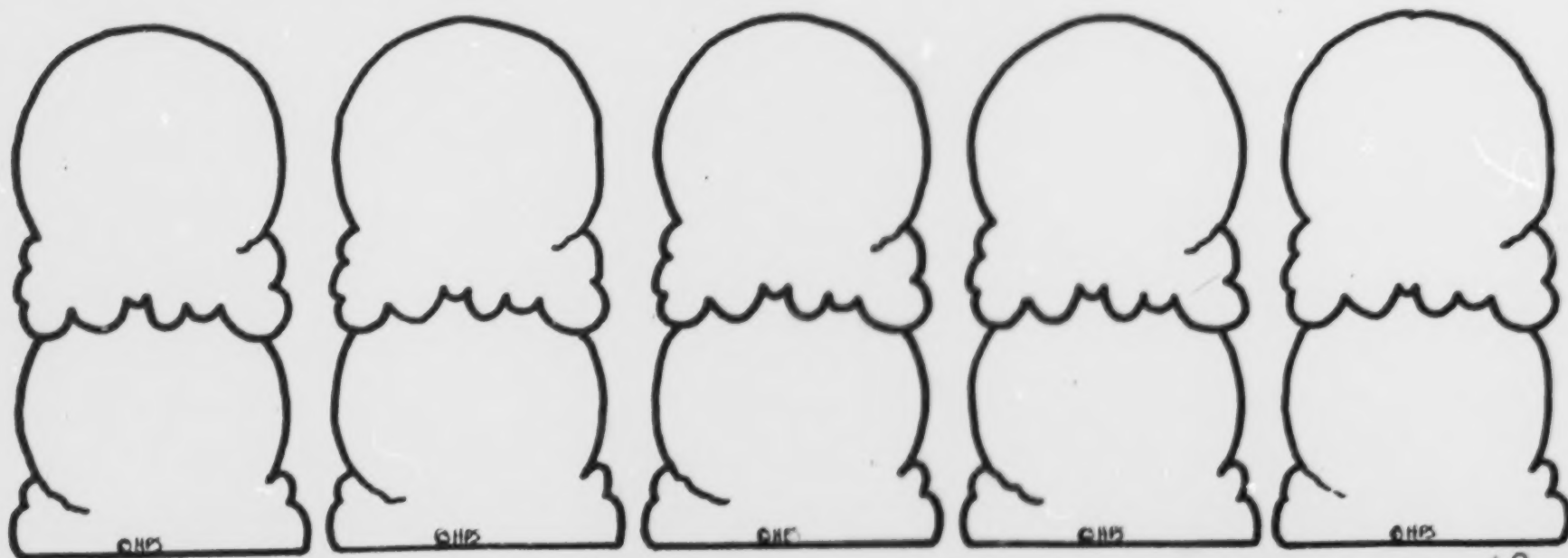
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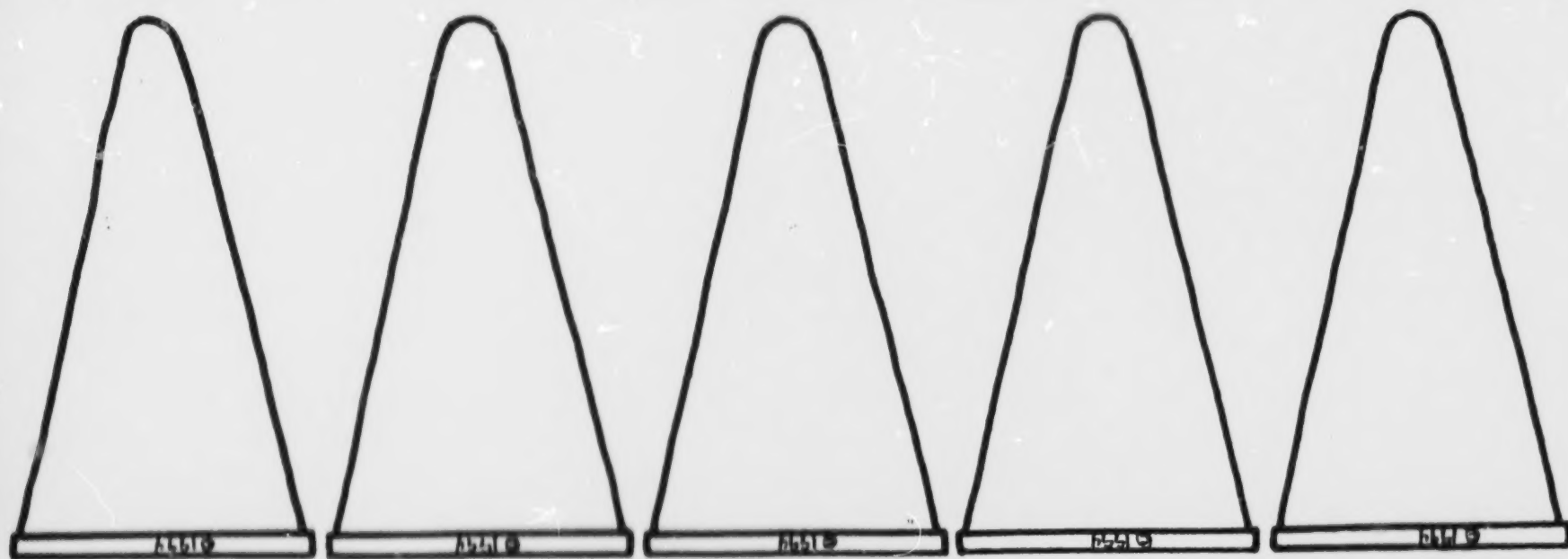
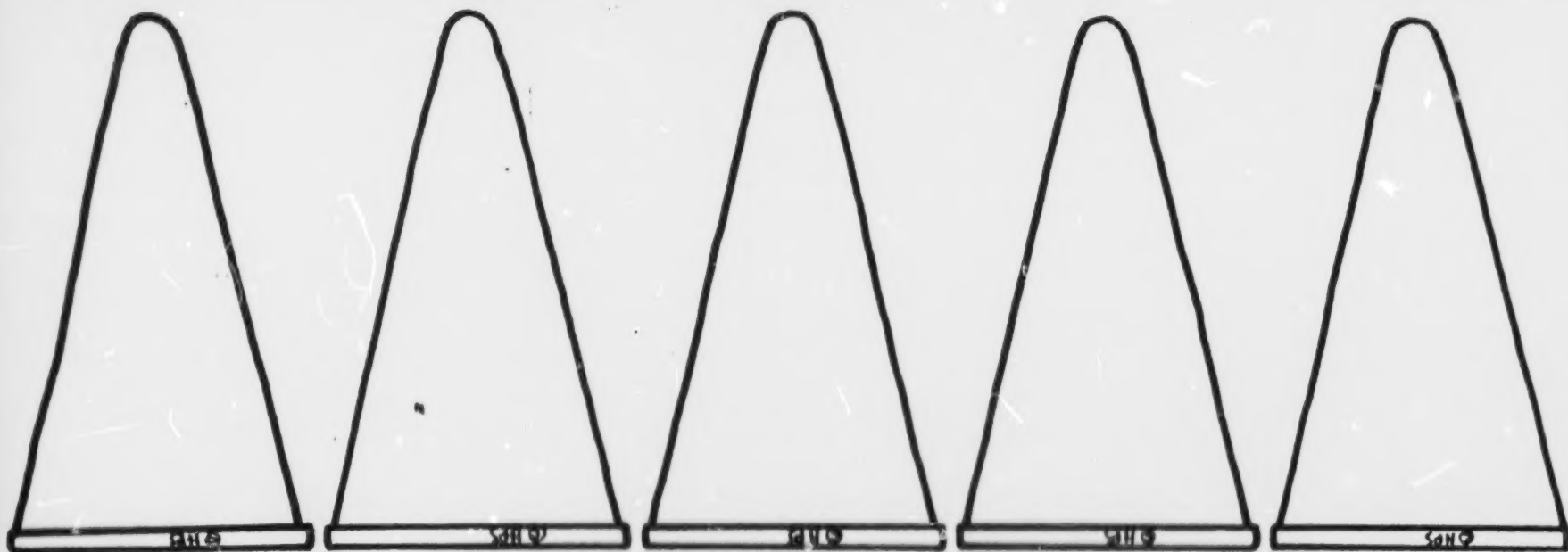
Make ice cream cones for a special treat. Let your child count out how many cones so that each person at home has one. Then let your child tell you how many scoops of ice cream you'll need so that everyone has one scoop per cone. If everyone has two scoops, how many scoops will you need?

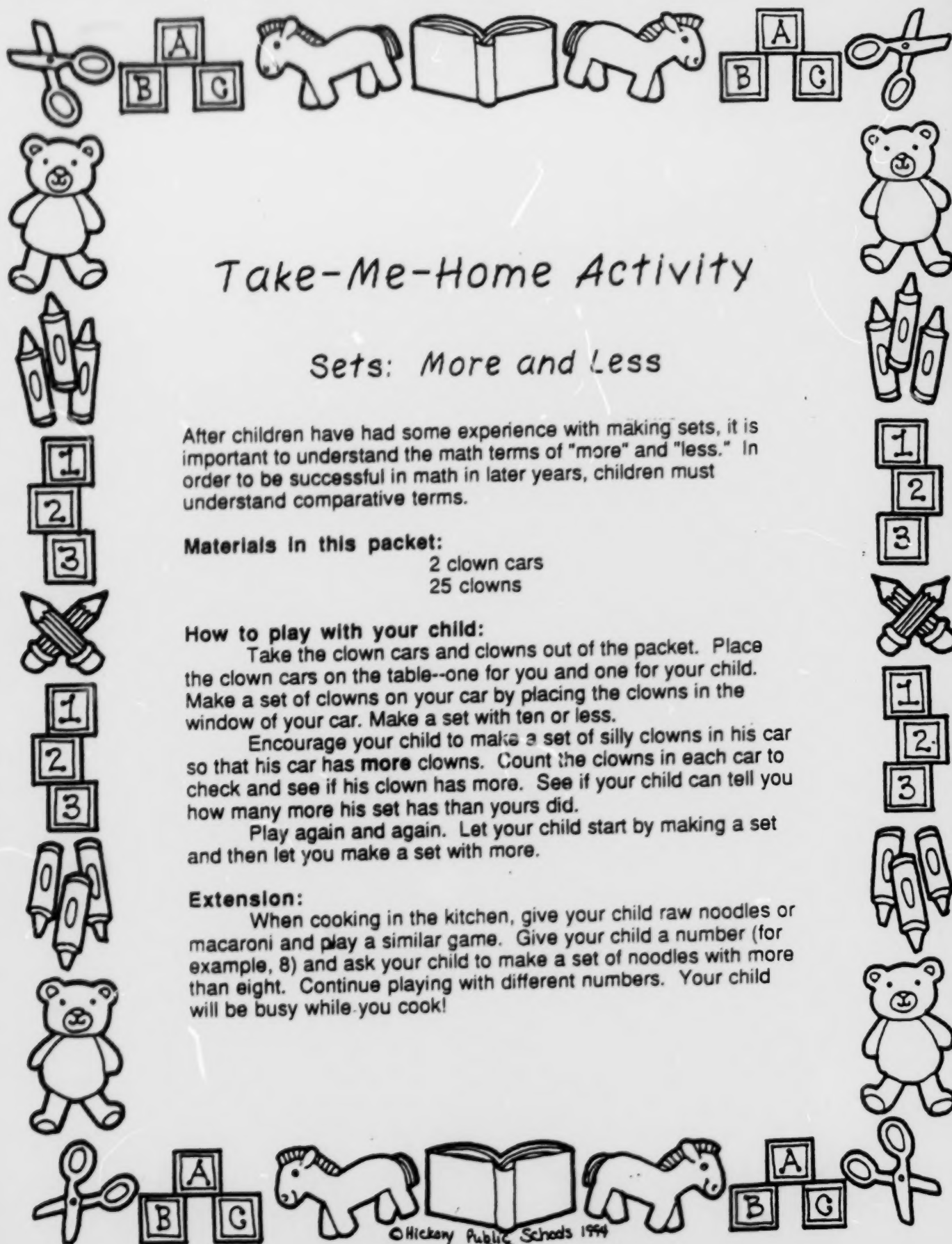
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the ice cream scoop page
1 copy of the ice cream cone page

- Directions:*
1. Laminate the ice cream scoop and ice cream cone pages.
 2. Cut out the ice cream scoops and ice cream cones.
 3. Laminate the parent direction page.
 4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.







Take-Home Activity

Sets: More and Less

After children have had some experience with making sets, it is important to understand the math terms of "more" and "less." In order to be successful in math in later years, children must understand comparative terms.

Materials in this packet:

2 clown cars
25 clowns

How to play with your child:

Take the clown cars and clowns out of the packet. Place the clown cars on the table--one for you and one for your child. Make a set of clowns on your car by placing the clowns in the window of your car. Make a set with ten or less.

Encourage your child to make a set of silly clowns in his car so that his car has **more** clowns. Count the clowns in each car to check and see if his clown has more. See if your child can tell you how many more his set has than yours did.

Play again and again. Let your child start by making a set and then let you make a set with more.

Extension:

When cooking in the kitchen, give your child raw noodles or macaroni and play a similar game. Give your child a number (for example, 8) and ask your child to make a set of noodles with more than eight. Continue playing with different numbers. Your child will be busy while you cook!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the car page
25 plastic clowns (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Laminate the two cars.
2. Cut out the cars.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Take-Home Activity

Sets: More and Less

After children have had some experience with making sets, it is important to understand the math terms of "more" and "less." In order to be successful in math in later years, children must understand comparative terms.

Materials in this packet:

2 trees
25 apples

How to play with your child:

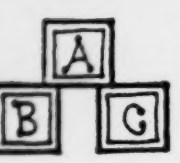
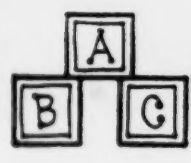
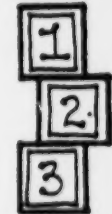
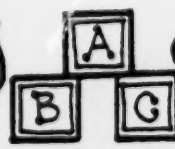
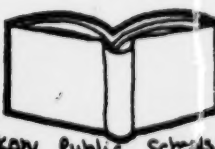
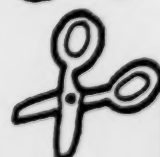
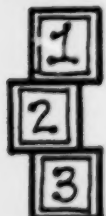
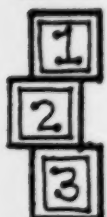
Take the apple trees and apples out of the packet. Place the trees on the table--one for you and one for your child. Make a set of apples on your tree by placing the apples on the leafy part of the tree. Make a set with ten or less.

Encourage your child to make a set of apples so that his tree has **more** apples. Count the apples on each tree to check and see if his tree has **more**. See if your child can tell you how many more his set has than yours did.

Play again and again. Let your child start by making a set and then let you make a set with more.

Extension:

Make applesauce. Talk about how the apples change as they cook. Talk about the textures of a raw apple and a cooked apple. How different do each feel when you eat them?

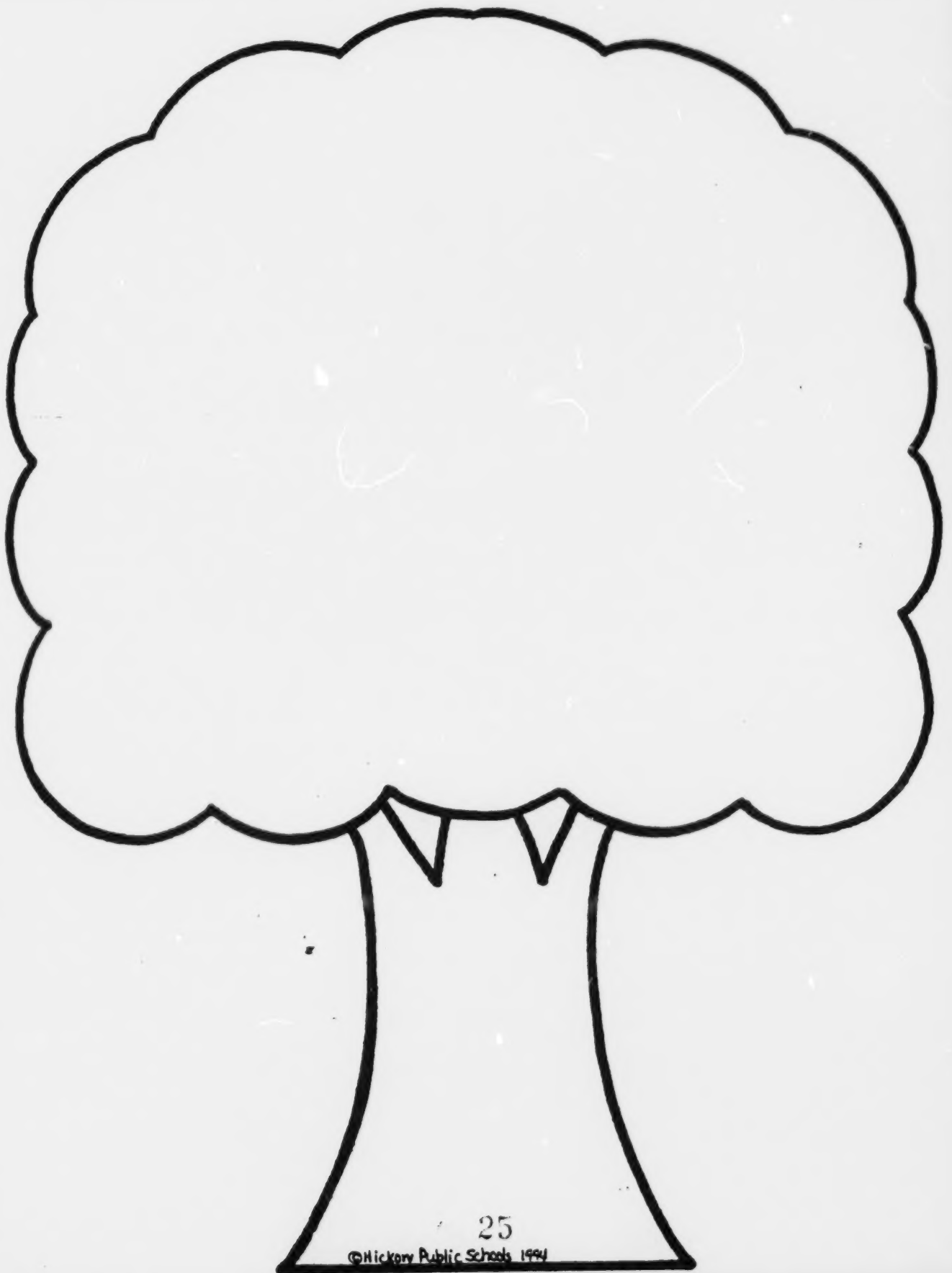


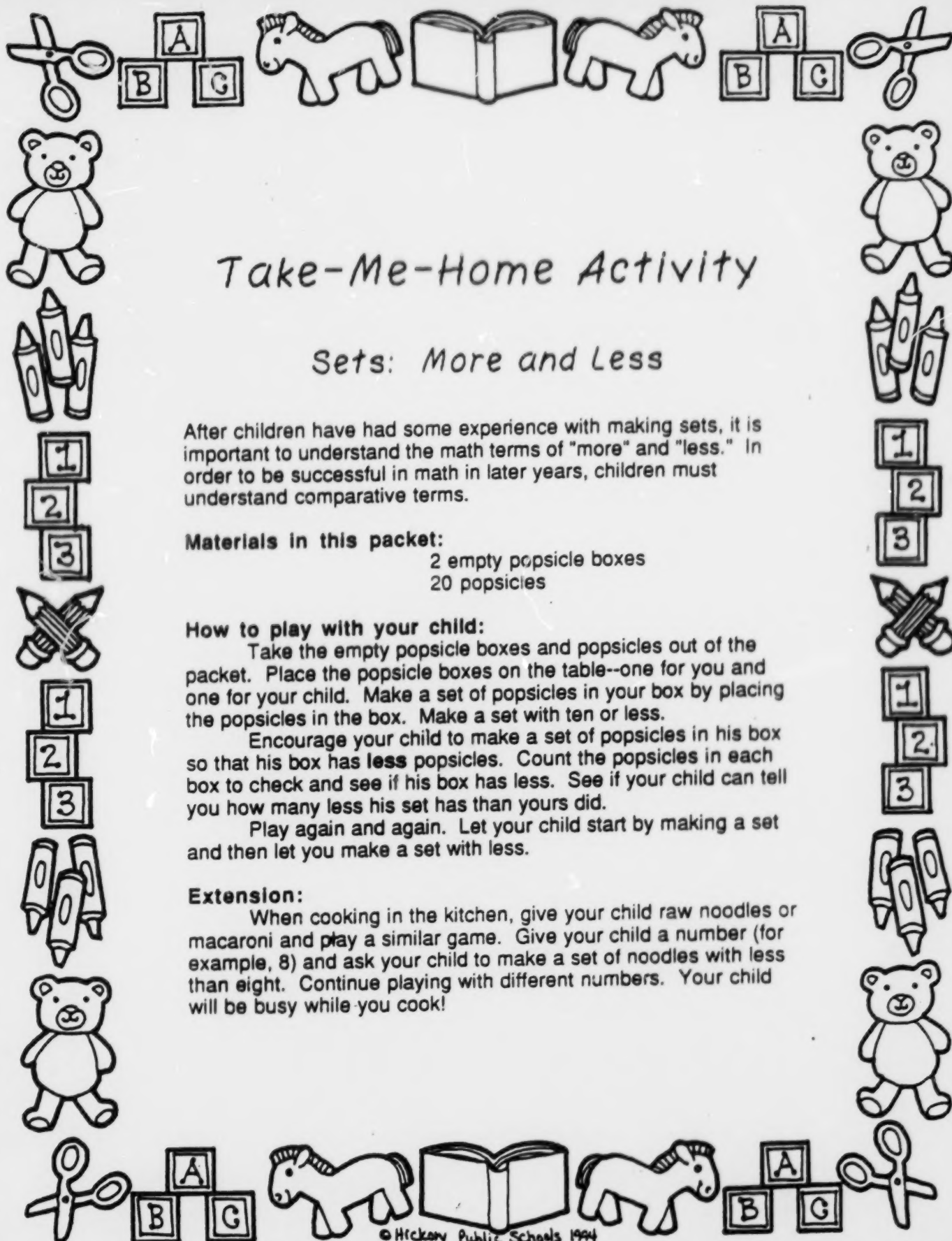
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the tree page
25 plastic apples (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Laminate the tree pages.
2. Cut the trees out.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Sets: More and Less

After children have had some experience with making sets, it is important to understand the math terms of "more" and "less." In order to be successful in math in later years, children must understand comparative terms.

Materials in this packet:

- 2 empty popsicle boxes
- 20 popsicles

How to play with your child:

Take the empty popsicle boxes and popsicles out of the packet. Place the popsicle boxes on the table--one for you and one for your child. Make a set of popsicles in your box by placing the popsicles in the box. Make a set with ten or less.

Encourage your child to make a set of popsicles in his box so that his box has **less** popsicles. Count the popsicles in each box to check and see if his box has less. See if your child can tell you how many less his set has than yours did.

Play again and again. Let your child start by making a set and then let you make a set with less.

Extension:

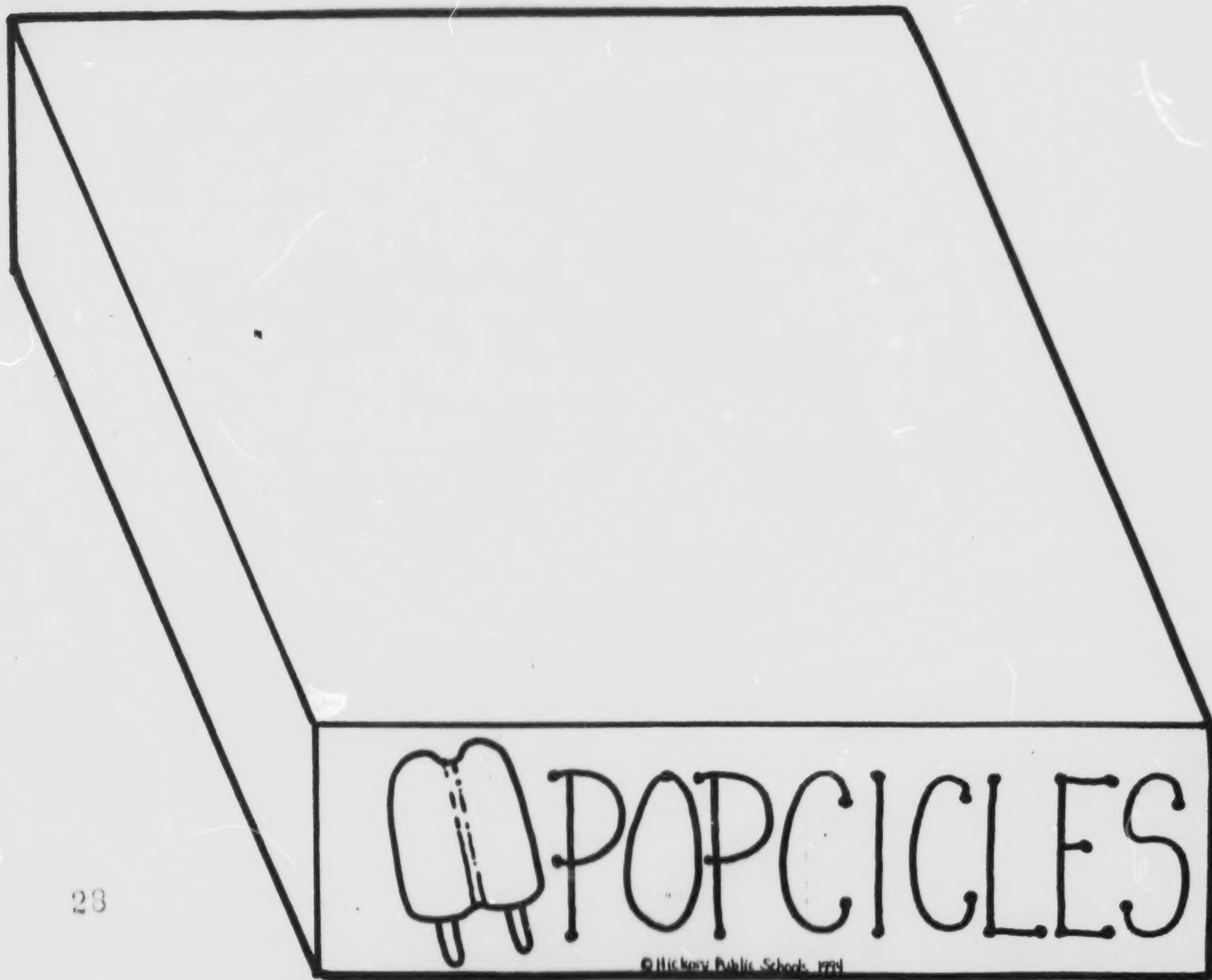
When cooking in the kitchen, give your child raw noodles or macaroni and play a similar game. Give your child a number (for example, 8) and ask your child to make a set of noodles with less than eight. Continue playing with different numbers. Your child will be busy while you cook!

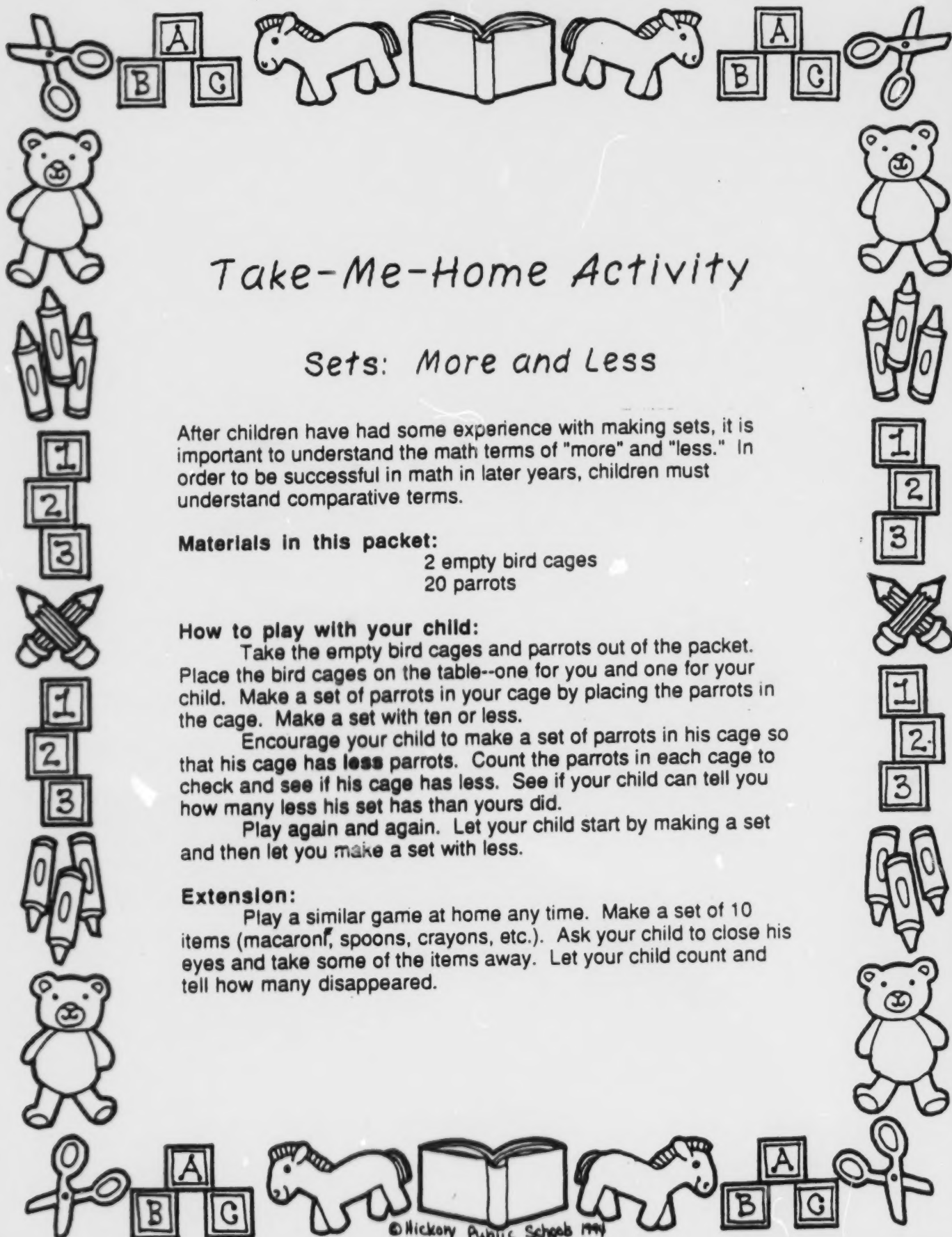
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the popsicle box page
20 plastic popsicles (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Laminate the popsicle box pages.
2. Cut out the popsicle boxes.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Sets: More and Less

After children have had some experience with making sets, it is important to understand the math terms of "more" and "less." In order to be successful in math in later years, children must understand comparative terms.

Materials in this packet:

- 2 empty bird cages
- 20 parrots

How to play with your child:

Take the empty bird cages and parrots out of the packet. Place the bird cages on the table--one for you and one for your child. Make a set of parrots in your cage by placing the parrots in the cage. Make a set with ten or less.

Encourage your child to make a set of parrots in his cage so that his cage has **less** parrots. Count the parrots in each cage to check and **see** if his cage has **less**. See if your child can tell you how many **less** his set has than yours did.

Play again and again. Let your child start by making a set and then let you make a set with less.

Extension:

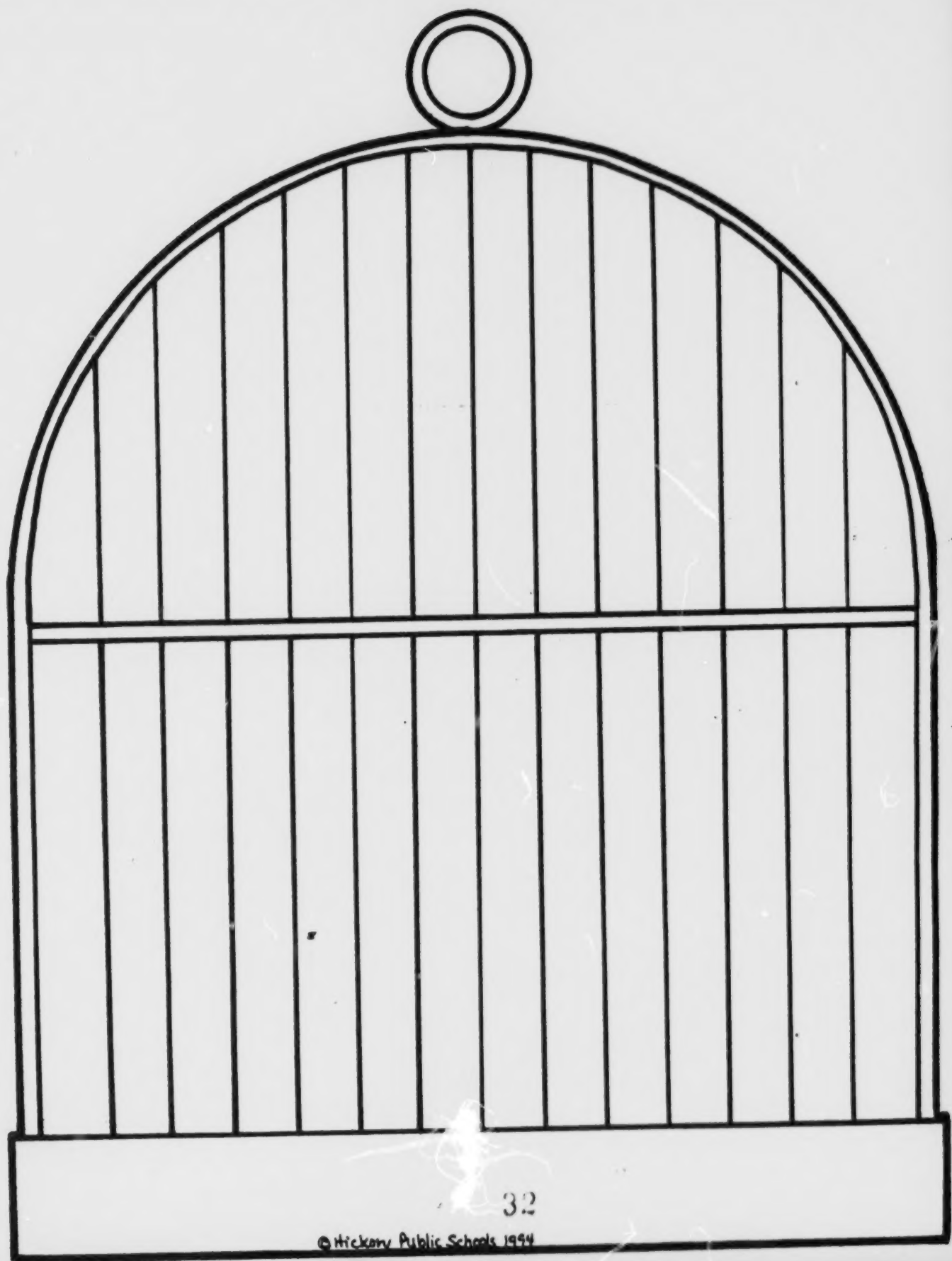
Play a similar game at home any time. Make a set of 10 items (macaroni, spoons, crayons, etc.). Ask your child to close his eyes and take some of the items away. Let your child count and tell how many disappeared.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the bird cage page
20 plastic parrots (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Laminate the bird cage pages.
2. Cut out the bird cages.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

One-to-one Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Before a child has an understanding of numeral-number recognition, he needs to understand one-to-one matching. As a more advanced one-to-one matching, understanding sets as the child matches is an important skill

Materials in this packet:

10 fish bowls with dots
55 plastic sea creatures

How to play with your child:

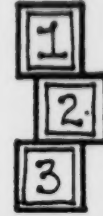
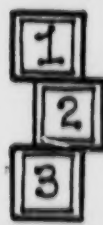
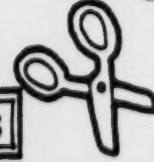
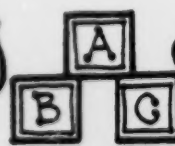
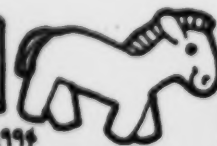
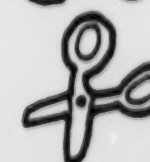
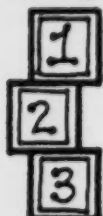
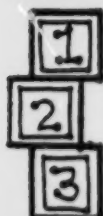
Take the large fish bowls and sea creatures out of the packet. Spread the fish bowls out on a table. A different number of dots is on each fish bowl to construct one-to-one sets to ten.

To play, your child places a sea creature on top of each dot on the fish bowl so each dot is covered. Once the dots are covered, help your child count to see how many sea creatures are in each fish bowl.

After all the fish bowl dots are covered, talk about which fish bowl has the most sea creatures. Which one has the least sea creatures?

Extension:

Sort the sea creatures by color and name the colors. Which color has the most? Which color has the least? Sort the sea creatures by kind too. Can you name the sea creatures? Be careful not to lose any sea creatures!



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
10 copies of the large fish bowl on blue paper
55 sticker dots
55 plastic sea creatures

Directions:

1. Place sticker dots on the fish bowls to represent the numbers from one to ten.
2. Laminate the fish bowls.
3. Cut out the fish bowls.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

One-to-one Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Before a child has an understanding of numeral-number recognition, he needs to understand one-to-one matching. As a more advanced one-to-one matching, understanding sets as the child matches is an important skill

Materials in this packet:

- 10 green lily pads with dots
- 55 plastic frogs

How to play with your child:

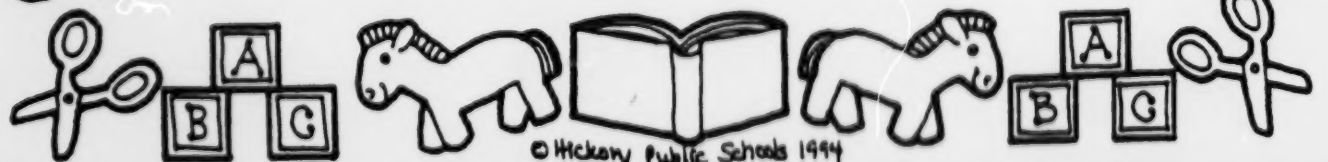
Take the large lily pads and frogs out of the packet. Spread the lily pads out on a table. A different number of dots is on each lily pad to construct one-to-one sets to ten.

To play, your child places a frog on top of each dot on the lily pad so each dot is covered. Once the dots are covered, help your child count to see how many frogs are on each lily pad.

After all the lily pads dots are covered, talk about which lily pad has the most frogs. Which one has the least frogs?

Extension:

Sort the frogs by color and name the colors. Which color has the most frogs? Which color has the least? Be careful not to lose any frogs!

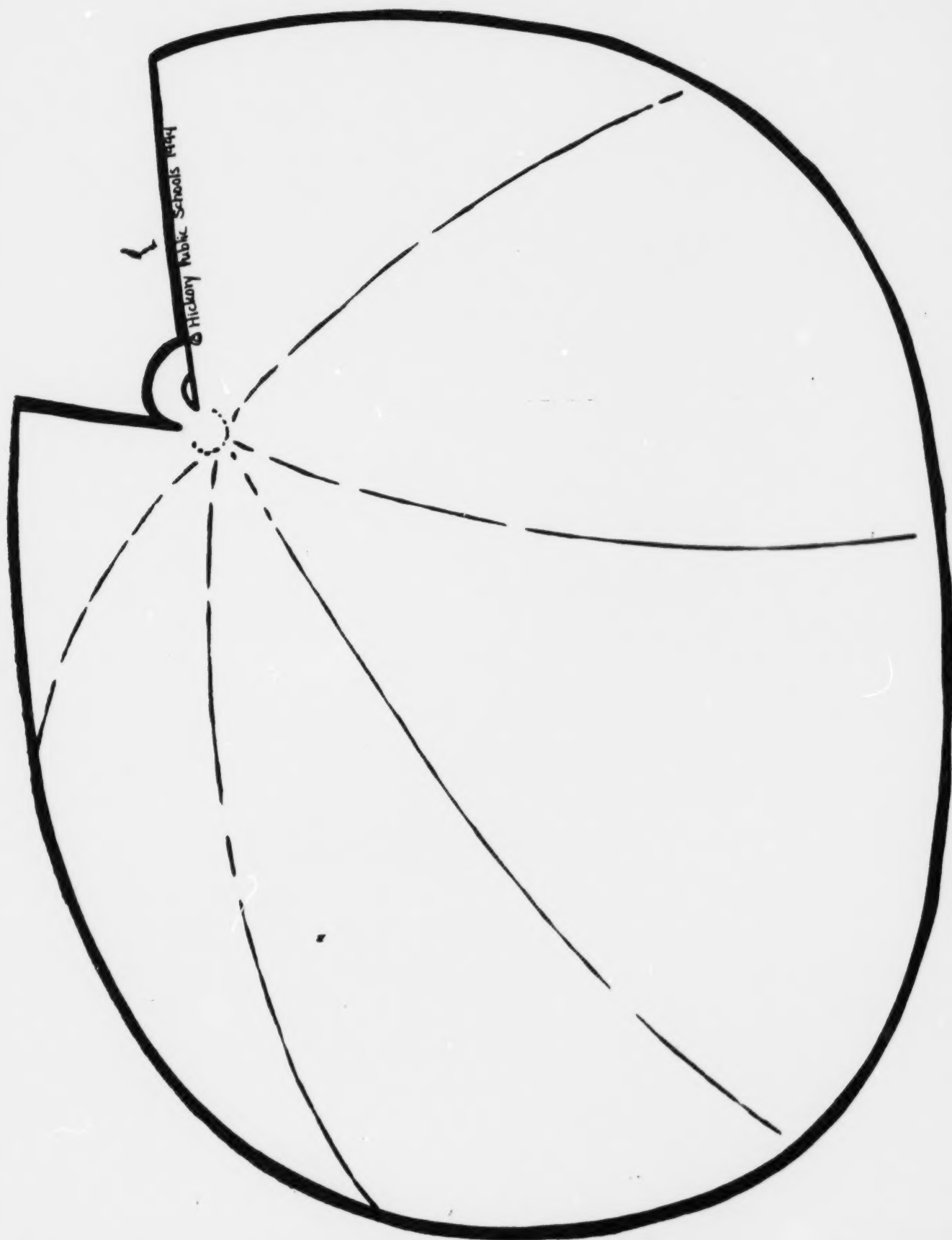


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
10 copies of the large lily pad on green paper
55 sticker dots
55 plastic frogs

Directions:

1. Place sticker sets on each lily pad to represent the numbers from one to ten.
2. Laminate the lily pads.
3. Cut out the lily pads.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Counting Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Counting meaningfully is crucial in developing good math understanding. Recognizing numerals and being able to count out the correct number is a first step toward adding sets together.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 crayon box with numeral wheel
- 10 crayons

How to play with your child:

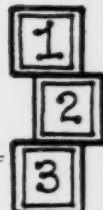
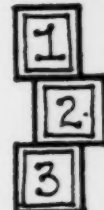
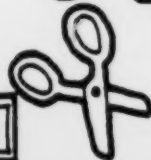
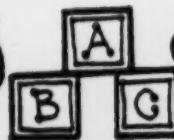
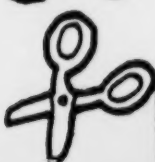
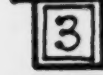
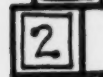
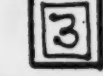
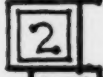
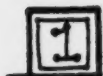
Take the crayon box and crayons out of the packet. Show your child how he can carefully turn the wheel on the crayon box to change the numeral in the window.

Let your child select a numeral by turning the wheel. Place the crayon box on the table. Now pretend to put the correct number of crayons in the box by placing the number of crayons according to the numeral in the window on the box.

Remove the crayons when the set is complete and change the numeral in the window. Count the crayons again according to the numeral in the window.

Extension:

Use some of your own crayons at home. Hold out your hand and ask your child to give you five (or two, or ten...) crayons. Let your child count that many crayons into your hand. Let your child be the one to name how many and you count too!

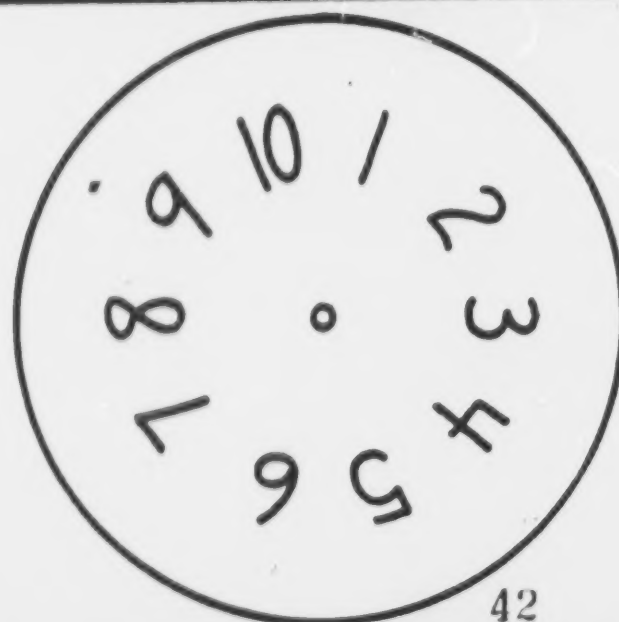
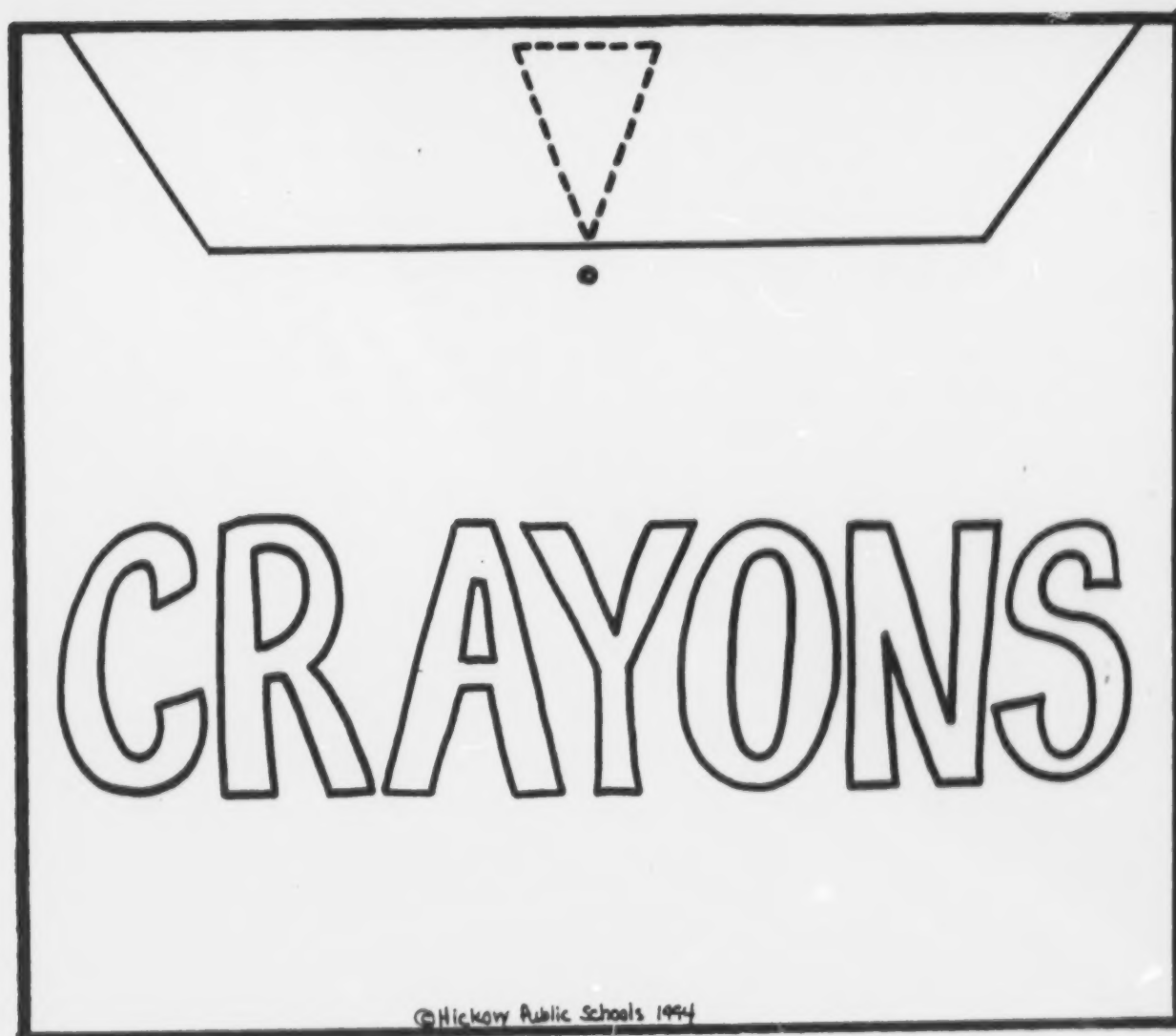


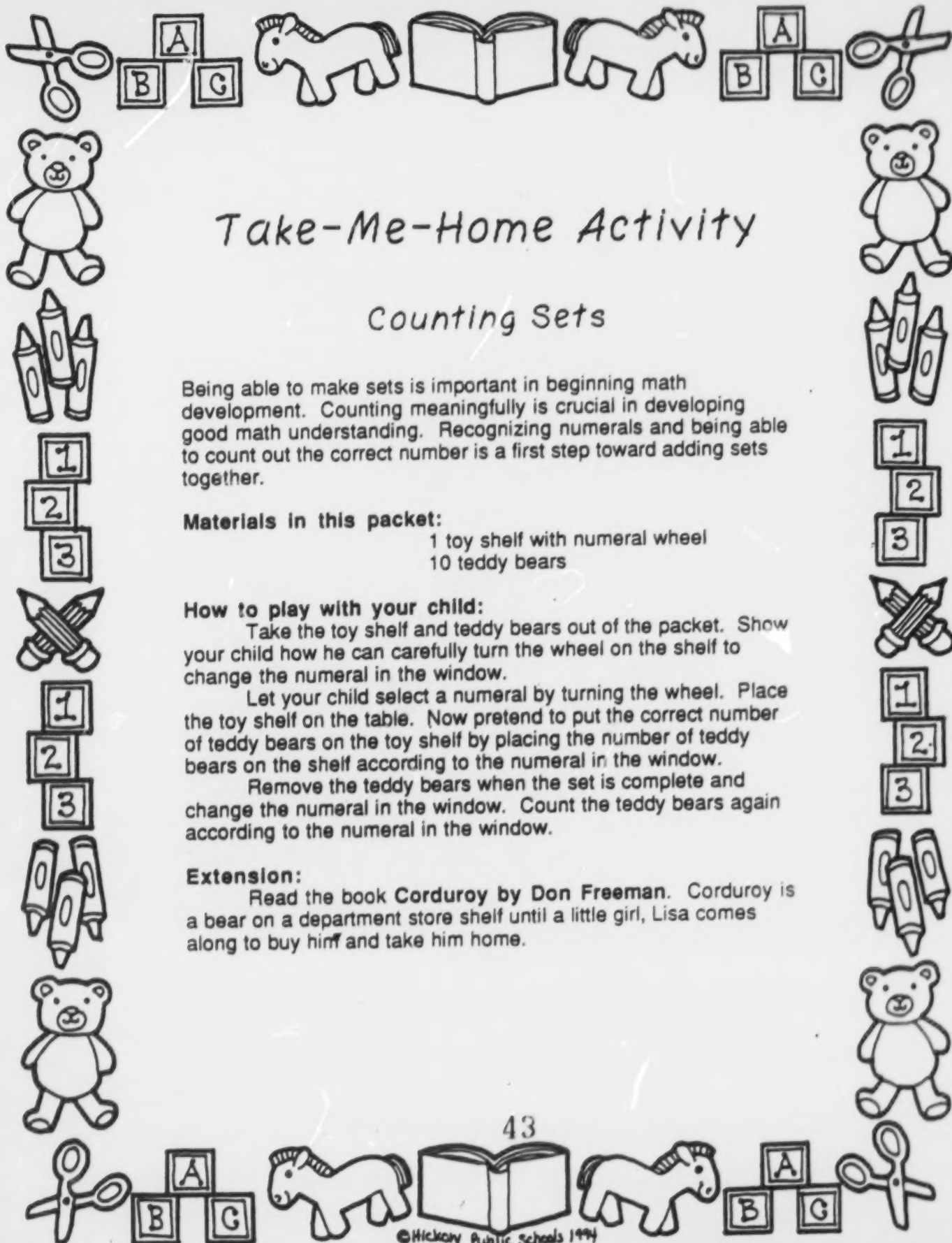
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the crayon box page
10 crayons

Directions:

1. Laminate the crayon box page.
2. Cut out the box and wheel, and the triangle window on the box.
3. Attach the wheel to the back of the box with a brad. The numerals on the wheel will show through the triangle window.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Counting Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Counting meaningfully is crucial in developing good math understanding. Recognizing numerals and being able to count out the correct number is a first step toward adding sets together.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 toy shelf with numeral wheel
- 10 teddy bears

How to play with your child:

Take the toy shelf and teddy bears out of the packet. Show your child how he can carefully turn the wheel on the shelf to change the numeral in the window.

Let your child select a numeral by turning the wheel. Place the toy shelf on the table. Now pretend to put the correct number of teddy bears on the toy shelf by placing the number of teddy bears on the shelf according to the numeral in the window.

Remove the teddy bears when the set is complete and change the numeral in the window. Count the teddy bears again according to the numeral in the window.

Extension:

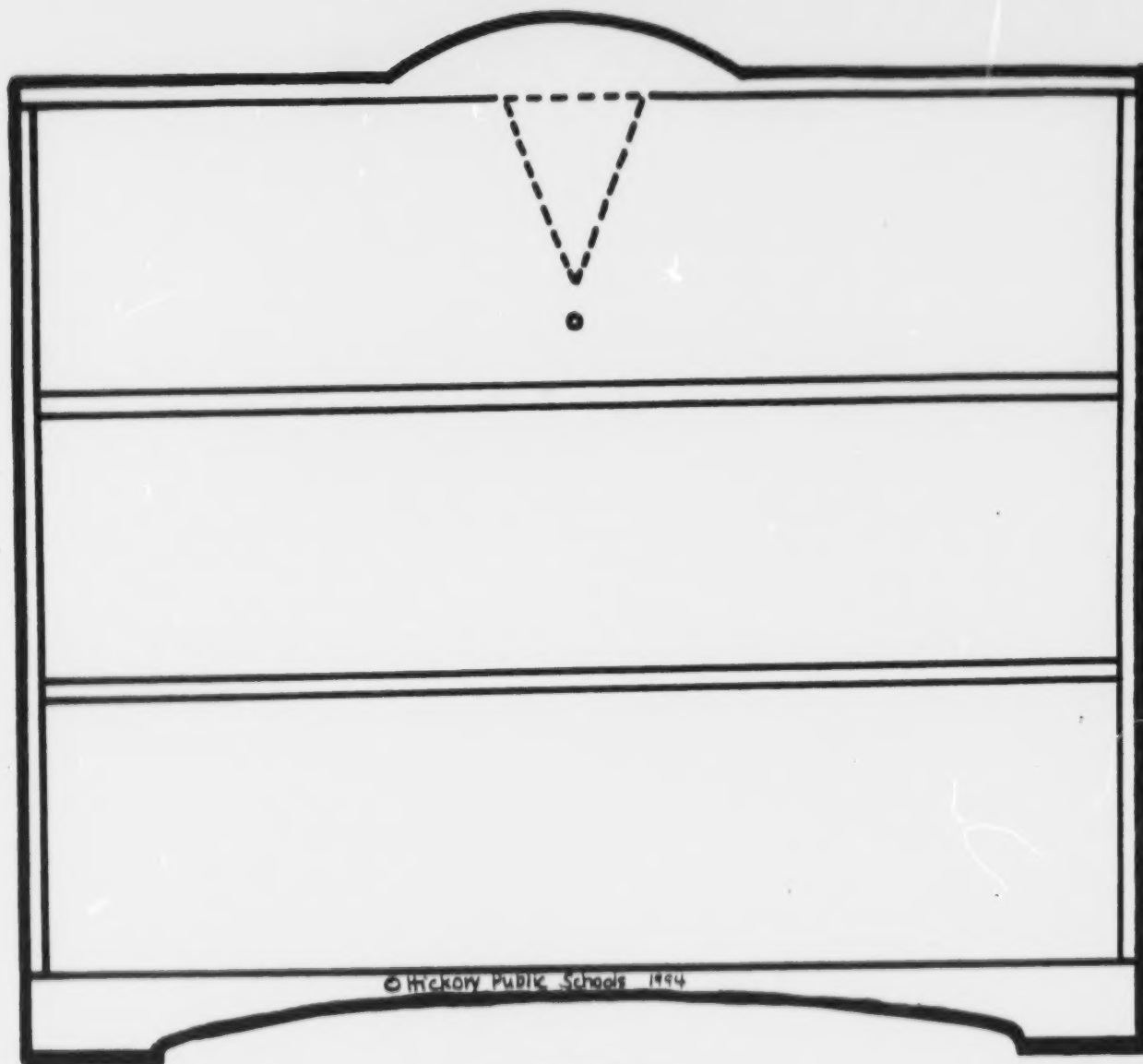
Read the book **Corduroy** by Don Freeman. Corduroy is a bear on a department store shelf until a little girl, Lisa comes along to buy him and take him home.

To make the game:

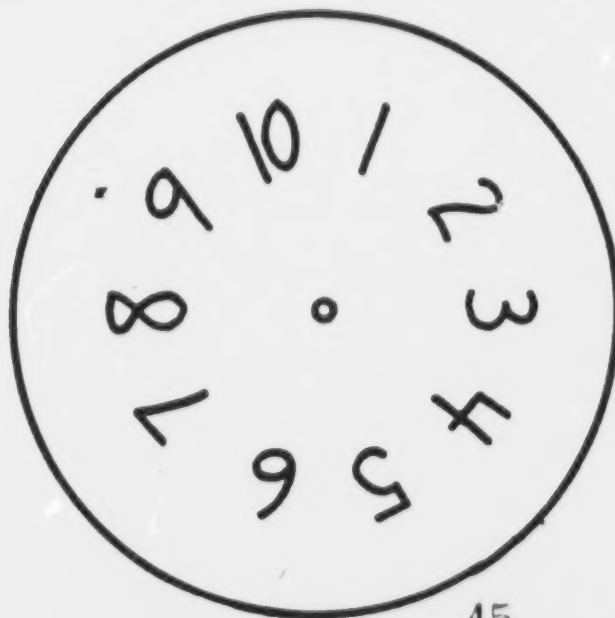
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the toy shelf page
10 teddy bears

Directions:

1. Laminate the toy shelf page.
2. Cut out the toy shelf and wheel, and the triangle window on the toy shelf.
3. Attach the wheel to the back of the toy shelf with a brad. The numerals on the wheel will show through the triangle window.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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Take-Home Activity

Counting Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Counting meaningfully is crucial in developing good math understanding. Recognizing numerals and being able to count out the correct number is a first step toward adding sets together.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 winter hat with numeral wheel
- 10 pom poms

How to play with your child:

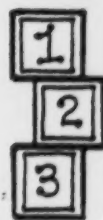
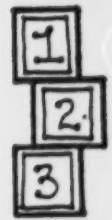
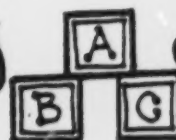
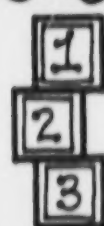
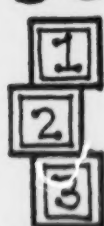
Take the winter hat and pom poms out of the packet. Show your child how he can carefully turn the wheel on the winter hat to change the numeral in the window.

Let your child select a numeral by turning the wheel. Place the winter hat on the table. Now pretend to put the correct number of pom poms on the hat by placing the number of pom poms on the hat according to the numeral in the window.

Remove the pom poms when the set is complete and change the numeral in the window. Count the pom poms again according to the numeral in the window.

Extension:

Talk about textures of things around the house. The pom poms in this packet are soft. What other things are soft? What things are hard? Rough? Smooth?

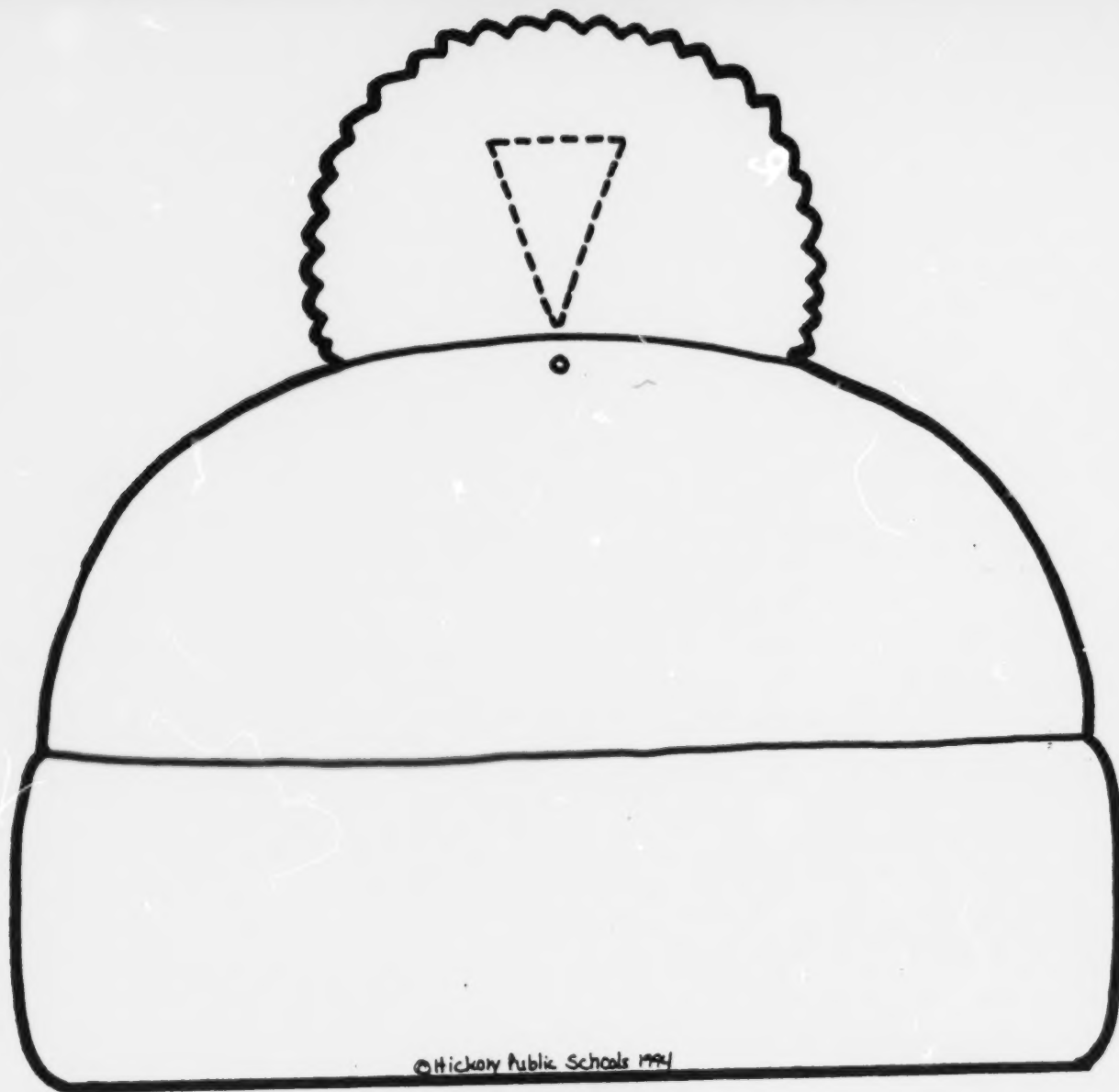


To make the game:

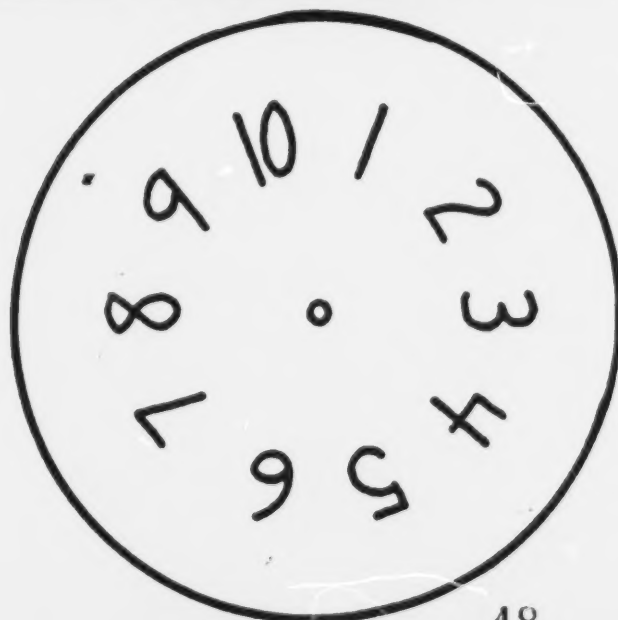
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the winter hat page
10 pom poms

Directions:

1. Laminate the winter hat page.
2. Cut out the hat and wheel, and the triangle window on the hat.
3. Attach the wheel to the back of the hat with a brad. The numerals on the wheel will show through the triangle window.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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Take-Home Activity

Counting Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Counting meaningfully is crucial in developing good math understanding. Recognizing numerals and being able to count out the correct number is a first step toward adding sets together.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 ocean scene with numeral wheel
- 10 whales and dolphins

How to play with your child:

Take the ocean scene and whales and dolphins out of the packet. Show your child how he can carefully turn the wheel on the ocean scene to change the numeral in the window.

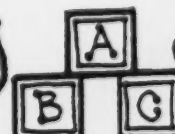
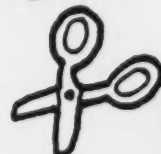
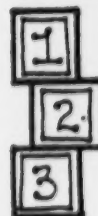
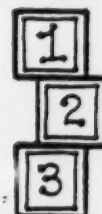
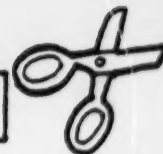
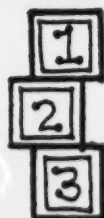
Let your child select a numeral by turning the wheel. Place the ocean scene on the table. Now pretend to put the correct number of whales and dolphins in the ocean by placing the number of whales and dolphins on the ocean scene according to the numeral in the window.

Remove the whales and dolphins when the set is complete and change the numeral in the window. Count the whales and dolphins again according to the numeral in the window.

Extension:

Read some books about whales and dolphins. Ask your local librarian for some suggestions.

For an added challenge with this packet, sort the dolphins and whales into two groups. Make a set of whales and a set of dolphins. Encourage your child to count the separate sets. Now ask him to figure out how many whales and dolphins he has all together. Repeat with different set combinations.

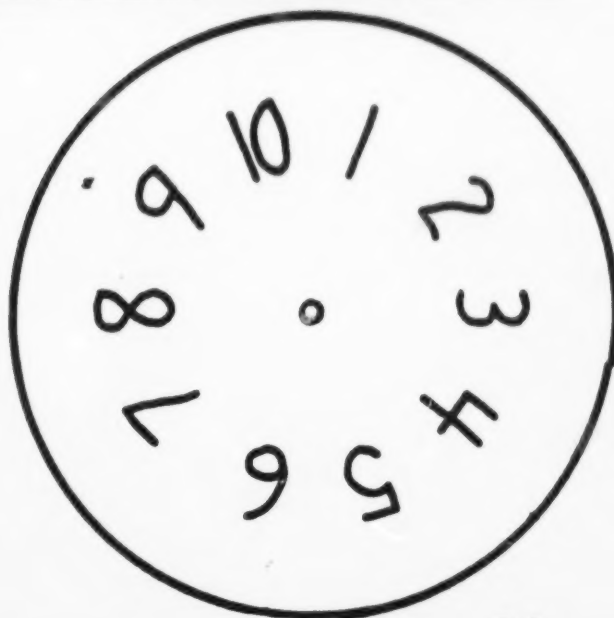
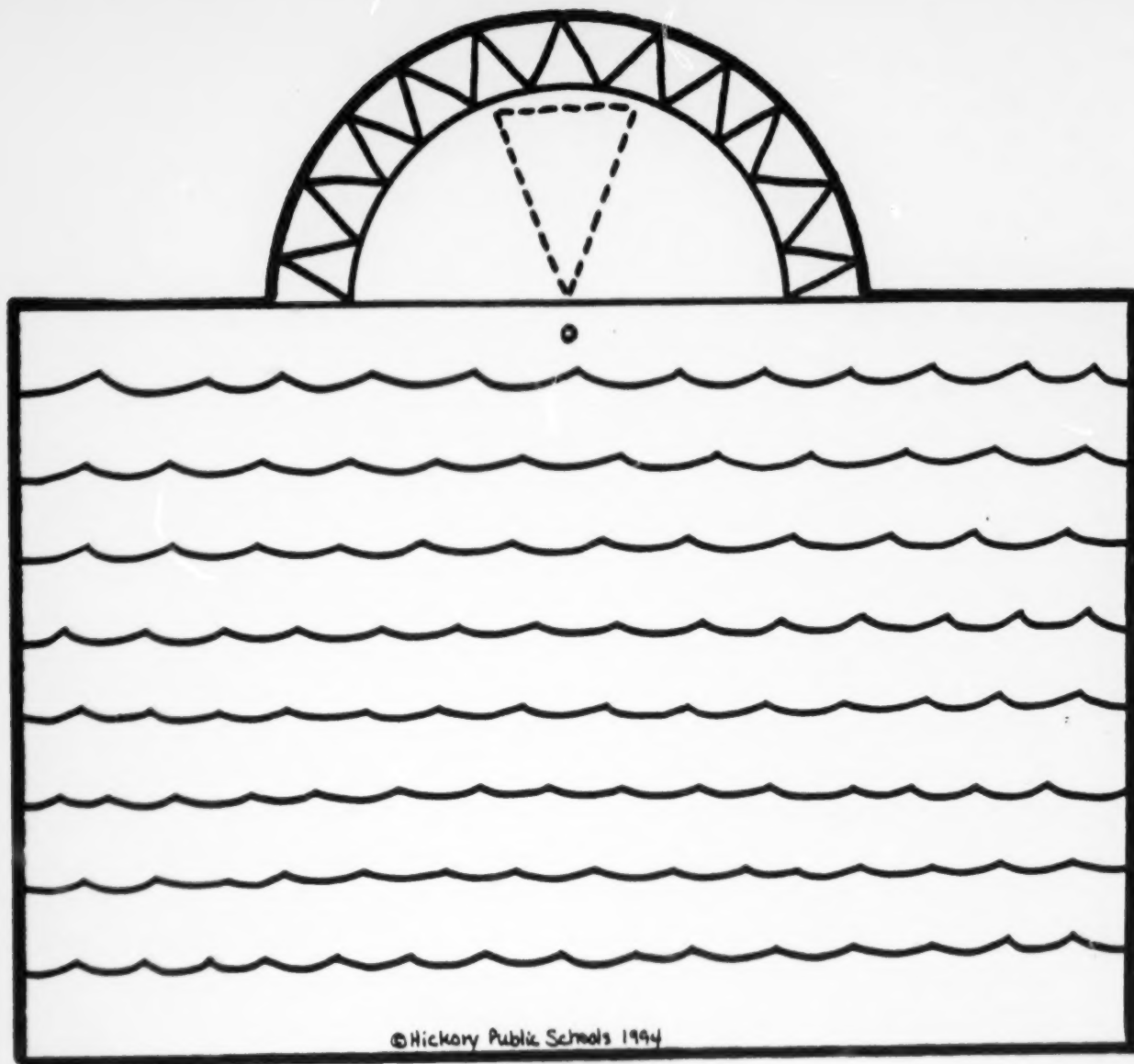


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the ocean waves page
10 whales/dolphin erasers

Directions:

1. Laminate the ocean wave page.
2. Cut out the ocean and wheel, and the triangle window on the box.
3. Attach the wheel to the back of the ocean with a brad. The numerals on the wheel will show through the triangle window.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Counting Sets

Being able to make sets is important in beginning math development. Counting meaningfully is crucial in developing good math understanding. Recognizing numerals and being able to count out the correct number is a first step toward adding sets together.

Materials in this packet:

10 flowers with numeral centers
55 butterflies

How to play with your child:

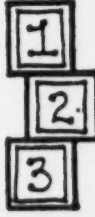
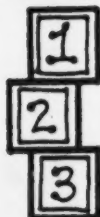
Take the flowers and butterflies out of the packet. Line up the flowers so all the numerals are right side up. (Don't place the flowers in numerical order.)

Call attention to the numeral in the center of the flower. Tell your child that that is how many butterflies can sit on that flower. Allow your child to count the butterflies according to the numeral center by placing the butterflies one per petal on the flower.

When all the butterflies have been counted out, which flower has the most butterflies? Which one has the least?

Extension:

Go for a walk. If it is springtime, pick a flower. Count how many petals the flower has. How many leaves does it have? Count how many flowers you see on your whole walk.



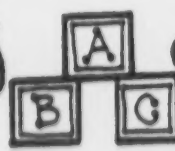
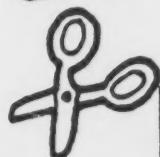
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
4 copies of the flower page
55 plastic butterflies (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Number the center of each flower from one to ten.
2. Laminate the flowers.
3. Cut out the flowers.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Numerals

After your child has had experience with matching pictures and shapes, he will probably be ready for matching numerals. Recognizing the numerals is important in remembering addresses, phone numbers, and later in solving math problems in first grade.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 large blue bunch of balloons
- 10 individual balloons

How to play with your child:

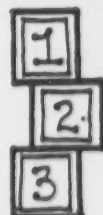
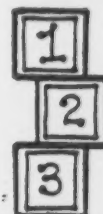
Take the large bunch of balloons and individual balloons out of the packet. Place the large balloon group on the table and spread the individual balloons around it. Encourage your child to choose an individual pink balloon and match it to the balloon with the same numeral on the blue bunch of balloons. Continue playing until all the balloons have been matched.

As your child matches the balloons, encourage him to name the numeral. This may be hard at first, but if you help him, he will gradually become more and more familiar with recognizing numerals.

For more fun, take the individual balloons and put them in numerical order from 1 to 10. After your child has done this, ask him to close his eyes. Now take one of the balloons away. See if he can tell you which one is missing.

Extension:

Read some good counting books from the library. Ask your librarian for some suggestions. Work on remembering your telephone number and address. After your child has some experience with numerals, remembering his address and phone number will have more meaning and therefore be easier!

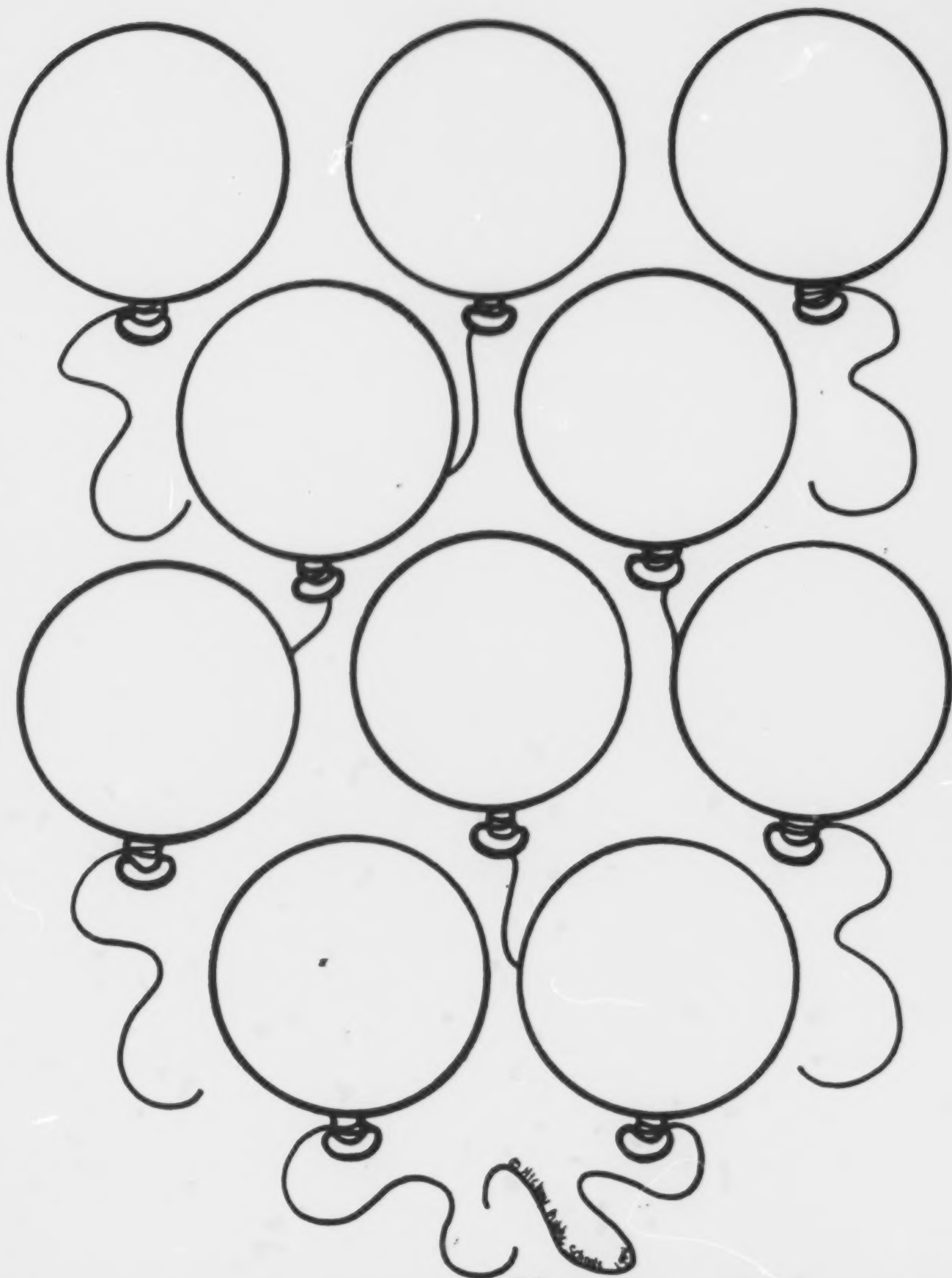


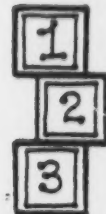
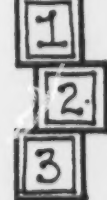
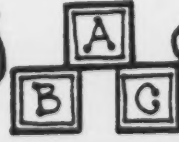
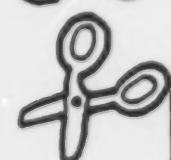
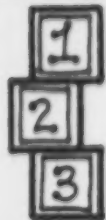
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the balloons, one blue, one pink

Directions:

1. Write a numeral from one to ten on each of the balloons on both sheets.
2. Laminate both sheets of balloons.
3. Leave the blue sheet of balloons intact.
4. Cut apart the pink sheet of balloons into individual circles.
5. Laminate the parent direction page.
6. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Numerals

After your child has had experience with matching pictures and shapes, he will probably be ready for matching numerals. Recognizing the numerals is important in remembering addresses, phone numbers, and later in solving math problems in first grade.

Materials In this packet:

- 1 large purple group of grapes
- 10 individual grapes

How to play with your child:

Take the large group of grapes and individual grapes out of the packet. Place the large grape group on the table and spread the individual grapes around it. Encourage your child to choose an individual green grape and match it to the grape with the same numeral on the purple bunch of grapes. Continue playing until all the grapes have been matched.

As your child matches the grapes, encourage him to name the numeral. This may be hard at first, but if you help him, he will gradually become more and more familiar with recognizing numerals.

For more fun, collect 10 milk caps or any other thing you might have ten of at home (pennies, paper clips, rocks). Turn all the individual grapes face down on the table. Let your child turn one up and count that many milk caps into a pile. Try it with all the grape numerals!

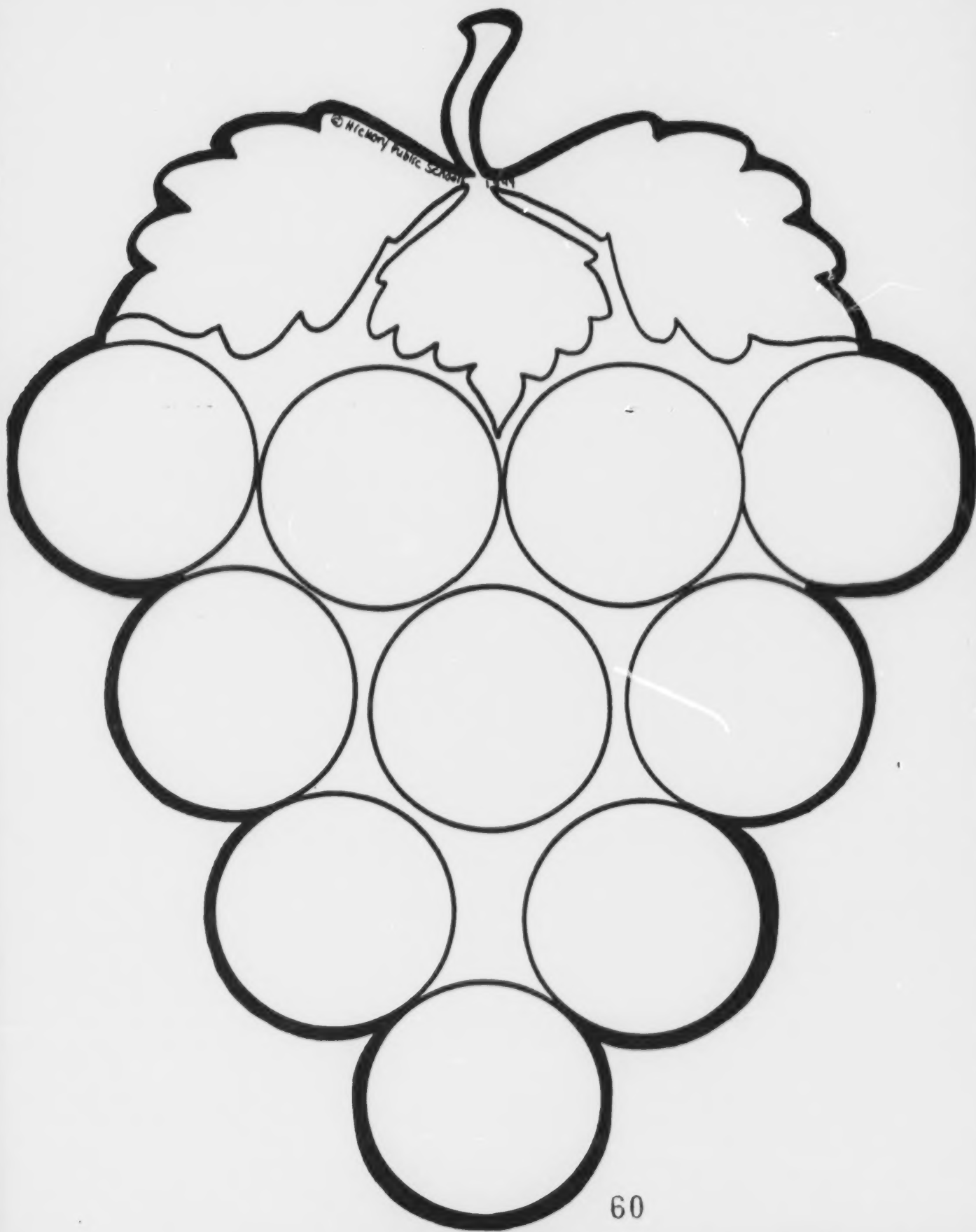
Extension:

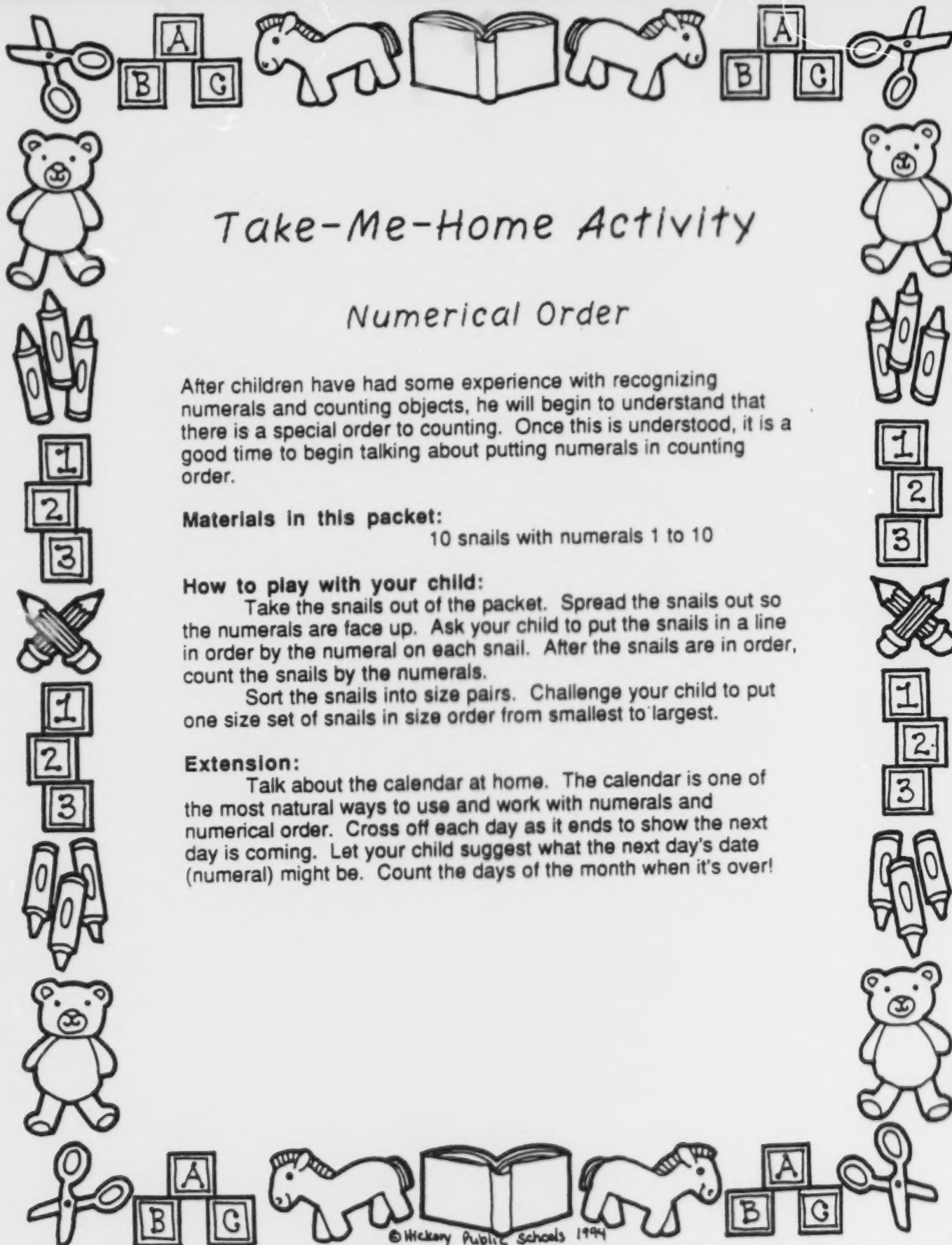
Read some good counting books from the library. Ask your librarian for some suggestions. Look for numerals in the newspaper and encourage your child to find matching numerals. Use large headlines and advertisements because the print will be larger and easier to see. Look for numerals on houses and highway signs too!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the grapes, one purple, one green

- Directions:*
1. Write a numeral from one to ten on each of the grapes on both sheets.
 2. Laminate both sheets of grapes.
 3. Leave the purple sheet of grapes intact.
 4. Cut apart the green sheet of grapes into individual circles.
 5. Laminate the parent direction page.
 6. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Numerical Order

After children have had some experience with recognizing numerals and counting objects, he will begin to understand that there is a special order to counting. Once this is understood, it is a good time to begin talking about putting numerals in counting order.

Materials in this packet:

10 snails with numerals 1 to 10

How to play with your child:

Take the snails out of the packet. Spread the snails out so the numerals are face up. Ask your child to put the snails in a line in order by the numeral on each snail. After the snails are in order, count the snails by the numerals.

Sort the snails into size pairs. Challenge your child to put one size set of snails in size order from smallest to largest.

Extension:

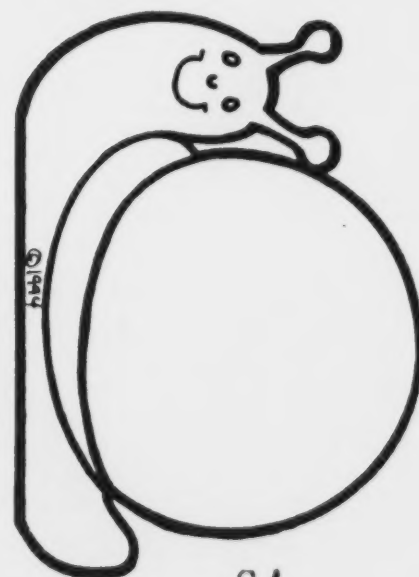
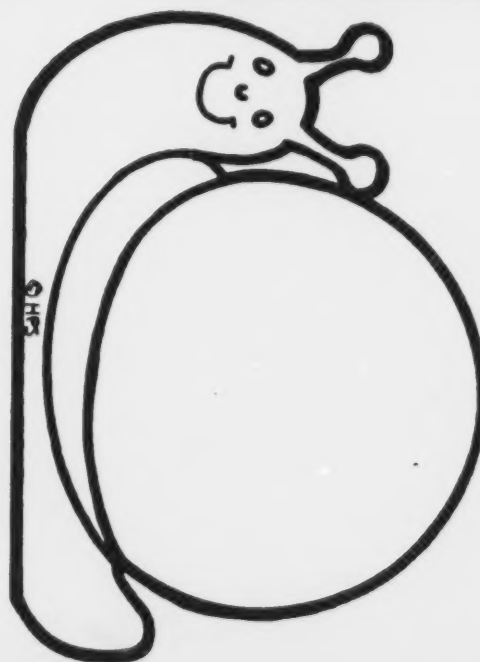
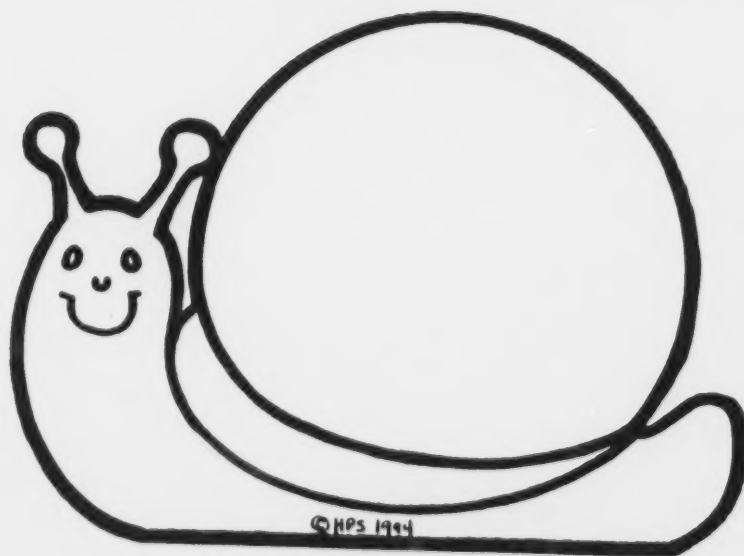
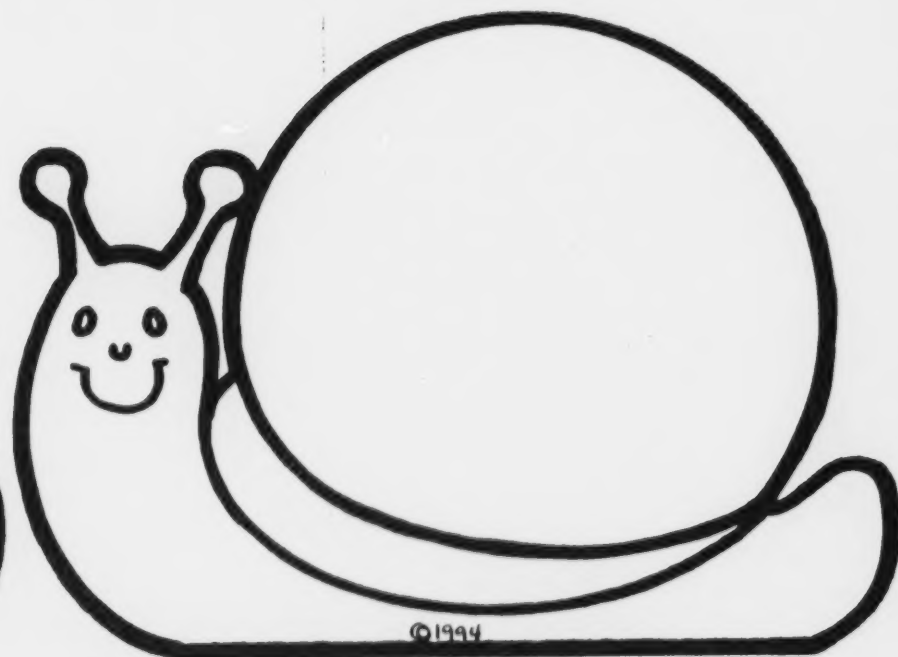
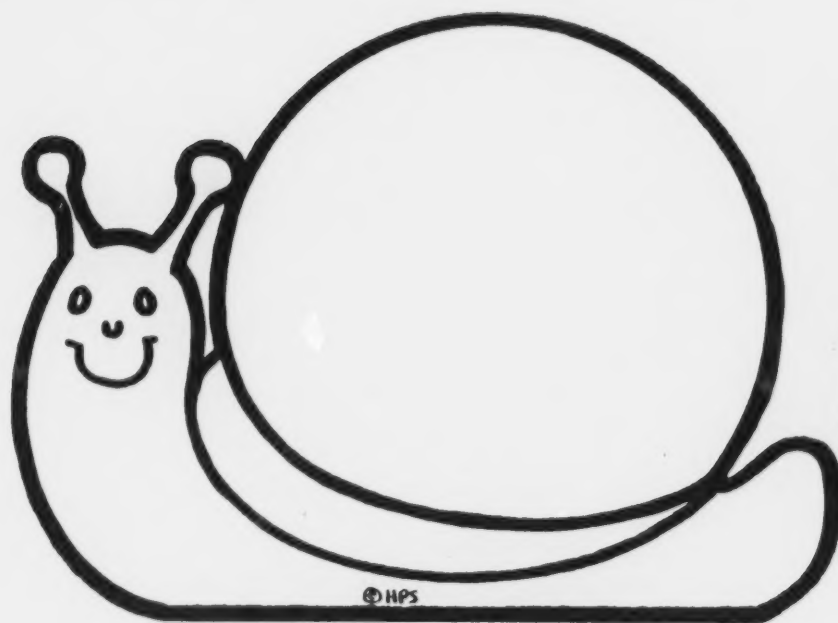
Talk about the calendar at home. The calendar is one of the most natural ways to use and work with numerals and numerical order. Cross off each day as it ends to show the next day is coming. Let your child suggest what the next day's date (numeral) might be. Count the days of the month when it's over!

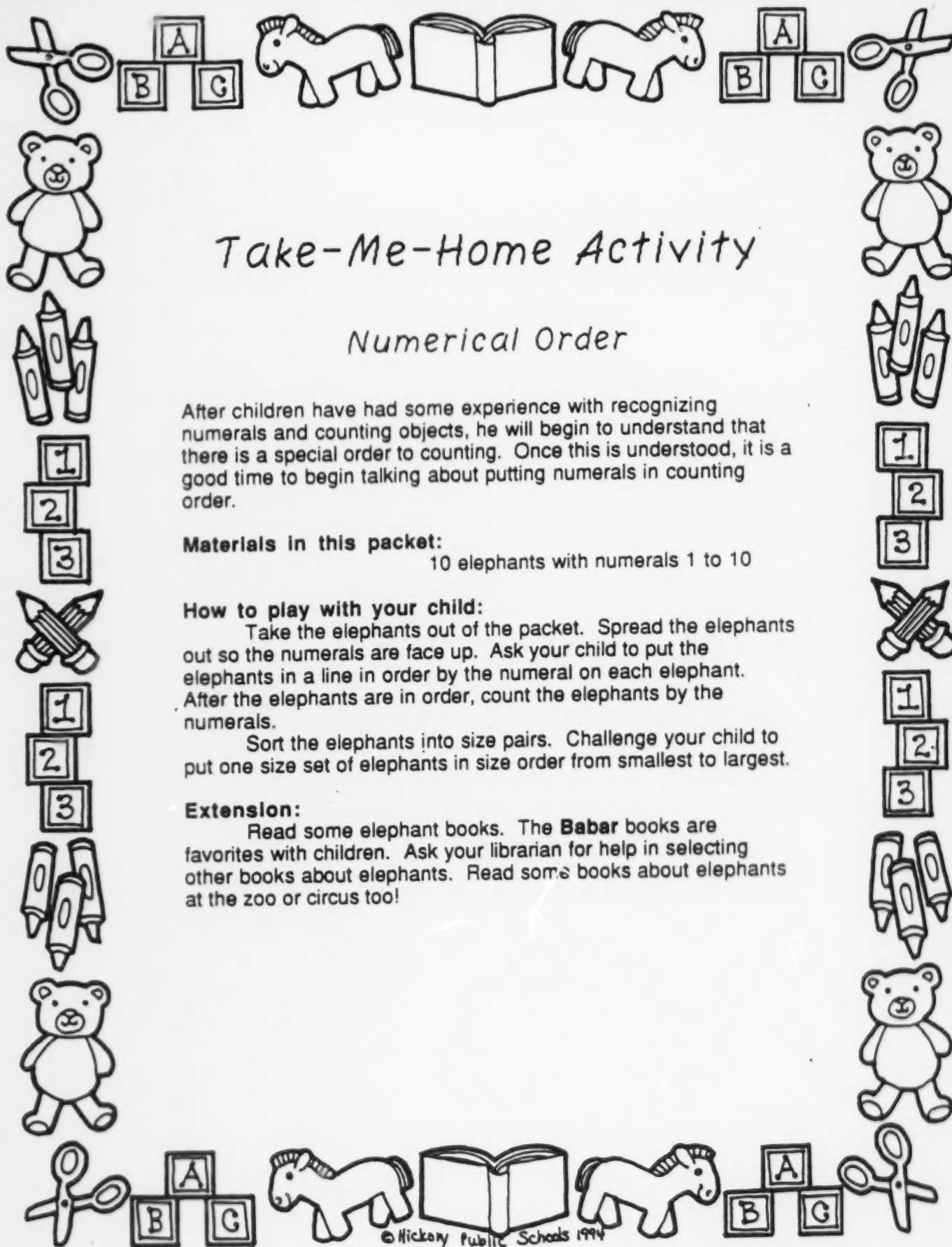
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the snail page on the same color

Directions:

1. Number the snails from one to ten.
2. Laminate the snails.
3. Cut out the snails.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Numerical Order

After children have had some experience with recognizing numerals and counting objects, he will begin to understand that there is a special order to counting. Once this is understood, it is a good time to begin talking about putting numerals in counting order.

Materials in this packet:

10 elephants with numerals 1 to 10

How to play with your child:

Take the elephants out of the packet. Spread the elephants out so the numerals are face up. Ask your child to put the elephants in a line in order by the numeral on each elephant. After the elephants are in order, count the elephants by the numerals.

Sort the elephants into size pairs. Challenge your child to put one size set of elephants in size order from smallest to largest.

Extension:

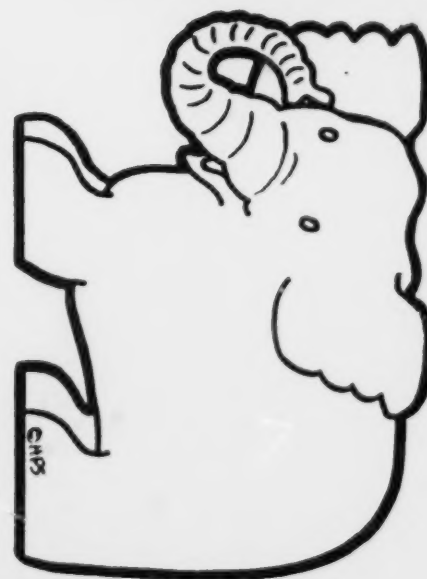
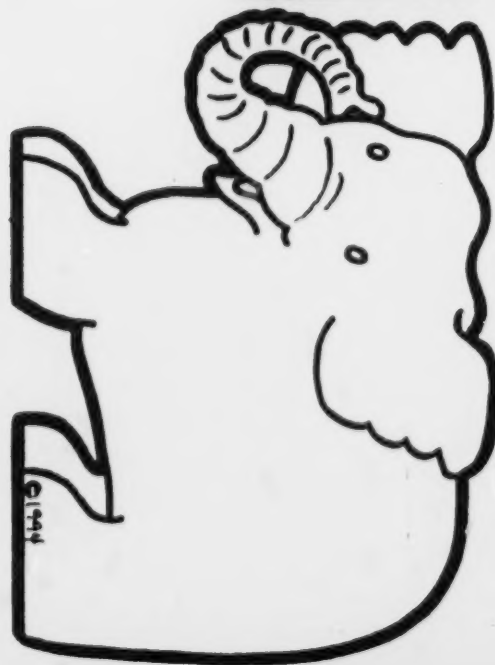
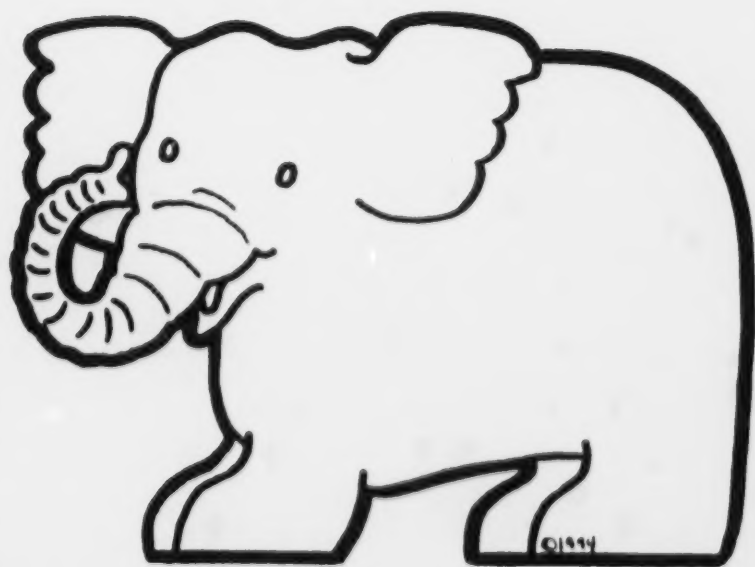
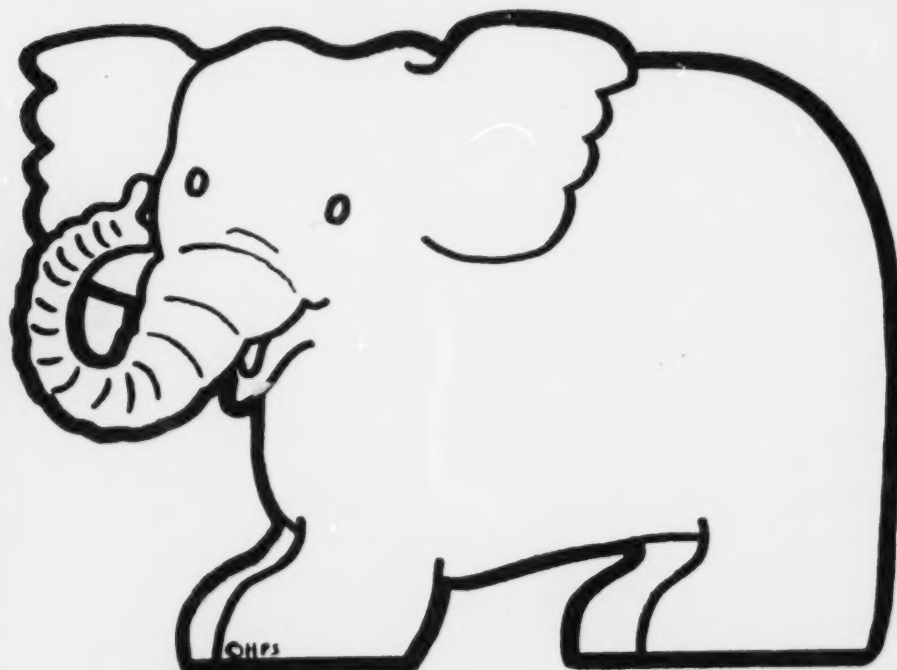
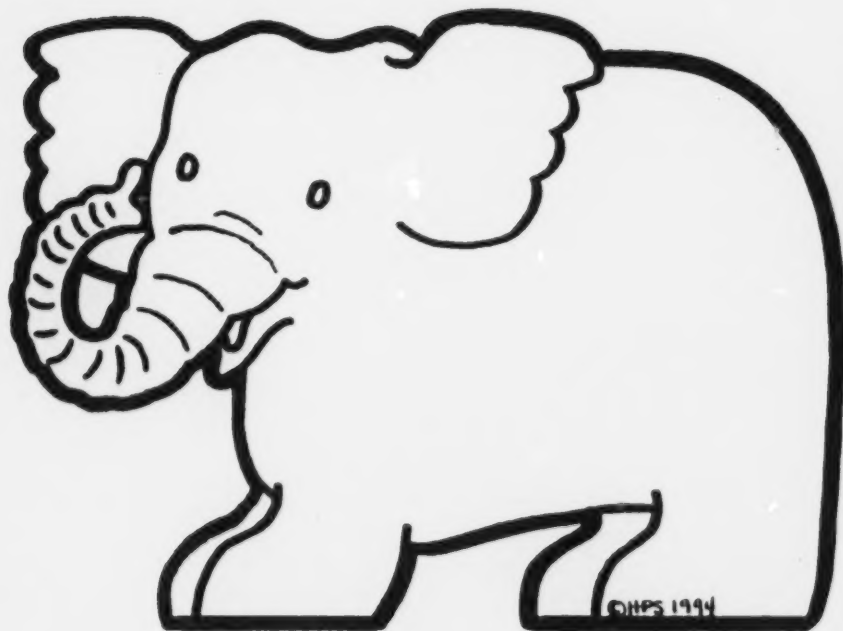
Read some elephant books. The **Babar** books are favorites with children. Ask your librarian for help in selecting other books about elephants. Read some books about elephants at the zoo or circus too!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the elephant page on the same color

Directions:

1. Number the elephants from one to ten.
2. Laminate the elephants.
3. Cut out the elephants.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Seriation

Seriation involves putting things in order. Your child can order things by size, by color shades, by length, or even by thickness. Seeing an order to objects is important in developing beginning reading and math skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 3 different sized beach ball pictures
- 3 different sized teddy bear pictures
- 3 different sized sneaker pictures
- 3 different sized sweater pictures

How to play with your child:

Take the picture cards out of the packet and let your child sort the cards by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the cards as you sort.

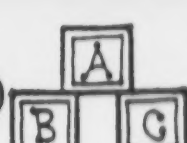
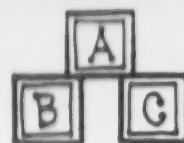
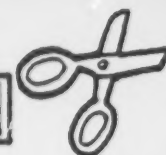
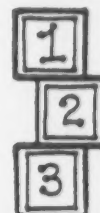
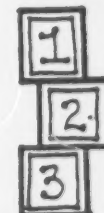
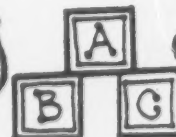
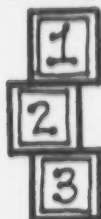
Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. Look at the picture cards, and ask your child to name the object in each set.

Ask your child if the pictures are all the same. Then ask how the pictures in each set are different. Suggest that your child put the pictures in order by size. Remind your child of the story of the three bears. Talk about the small baby bear, the middle-sized mama bear, and the big papa bear. Put the pictures in order like the bears: the smallest picture, then the middle-sized picture, then the big picture.

As your child plays, encourage him to use size words like small, little, big, bigger, biggest, larger, and largest.

Extension:

Put things at home in size order. Use three different sizes of kitchen spoons, three different sizes of socks, or three different sizes of cups. Use size words to talk about how you put the objects in order.

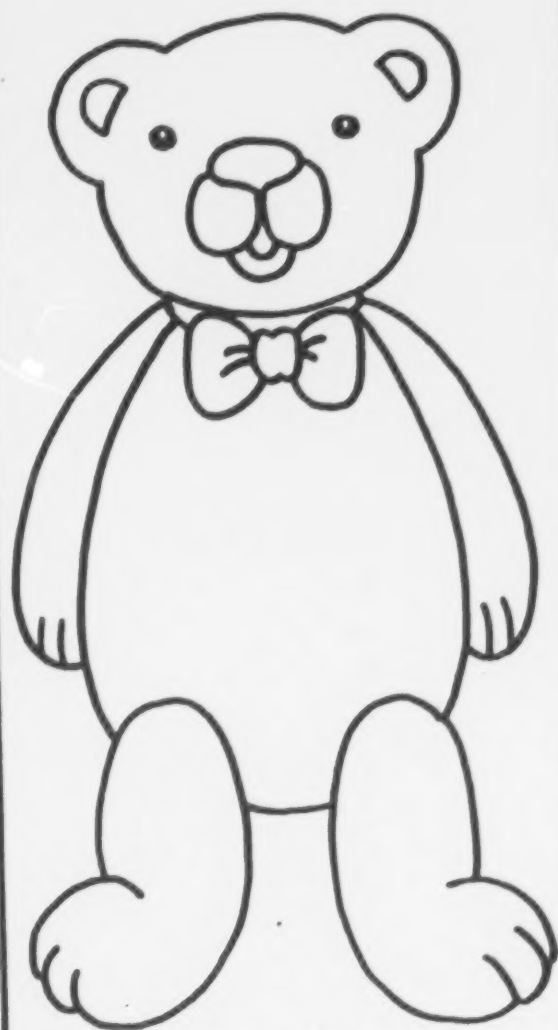


To make the game:

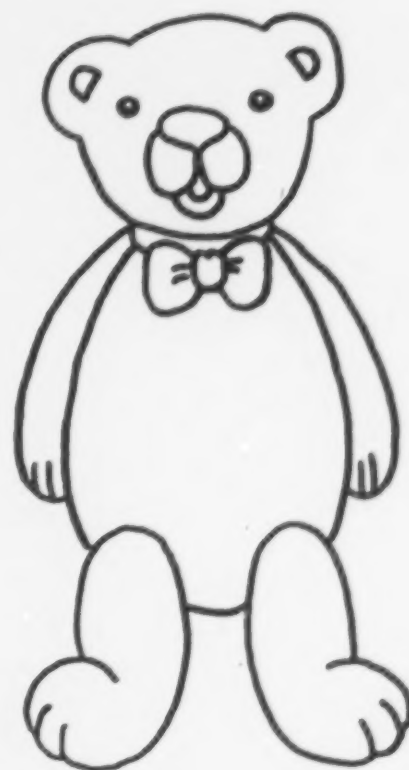
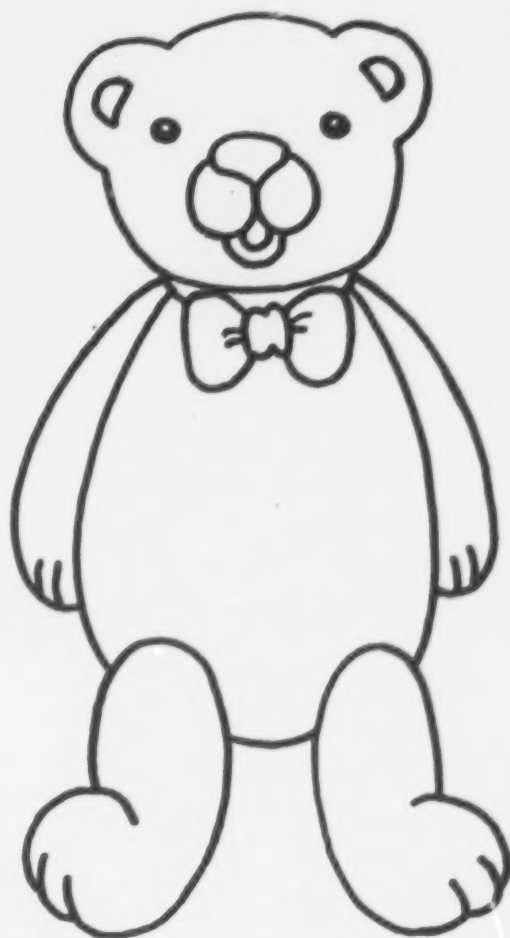
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the three pages, each on a
different color paper: teddy bear
beach ball
sneaker
sweater

Directions:

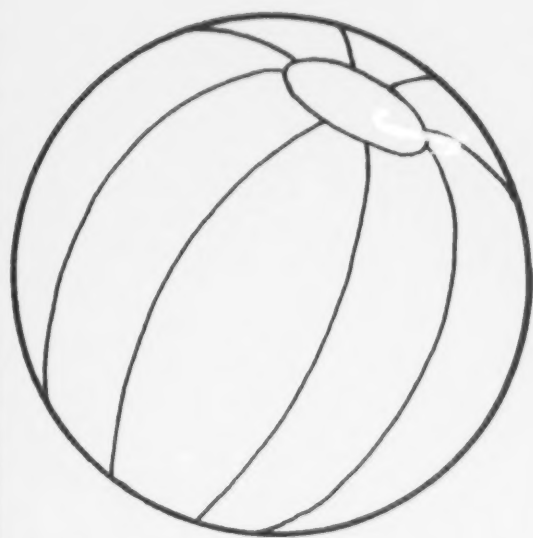
1. Laminate the seriation picture cards.
2. Cut the cards apart.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



71

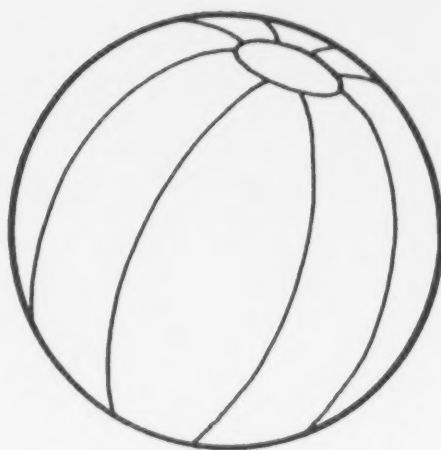


72

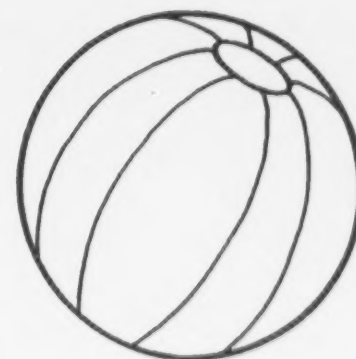


73

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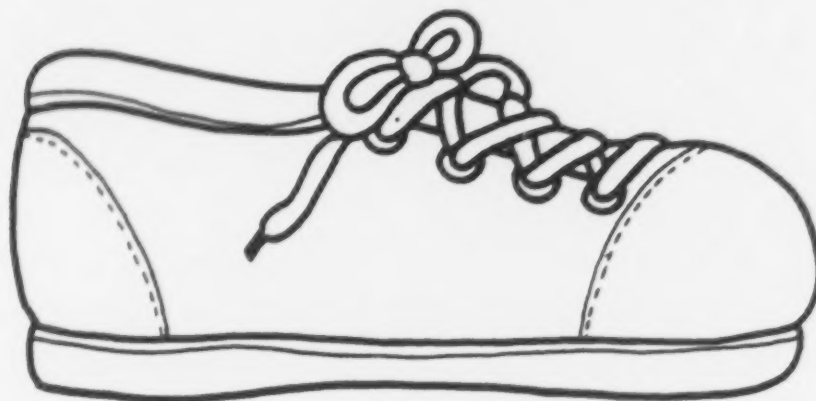


74

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Take-Home Activity

Seriation

Seriation involves putting things in order. Your child can order things by size, by color shades, by length, or even by thickness. Seeing an order to objects is important in developing beginning reading and math skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 5 different sized chair pictures
- 5 different sized ladder pictures
- 5 different sized book pictures
- 5 different sized top hat pictures

How to play with your child:

Take the picture cards out of the packet and let your child sort the cards by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the cards as you sort.

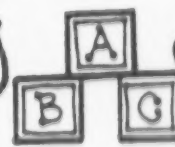
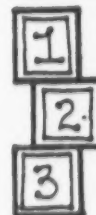
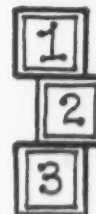
Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. Look at the picture cards, and ask your child to name the object in each set.

Ask your child if the pictures are all the same. Then ask how the pictures in each set are different. Suggest that your child put the pictures in order by size. Start with the smallest picture and work up to the biggest picture. If your child has a hard time working with five pictures, remove two and let your child try it with three pictures.

As your child plays, encourage him to use size words like small, little, big, bigger, biggest, larger, and largest.

Extension:

Talk about the sizes of things at home. Use size words to compare two things. "This chair is bigger than that chair." "This book is thicker than that book." If your child hears you using words like this, he will be more likely to learn the words and use them too!

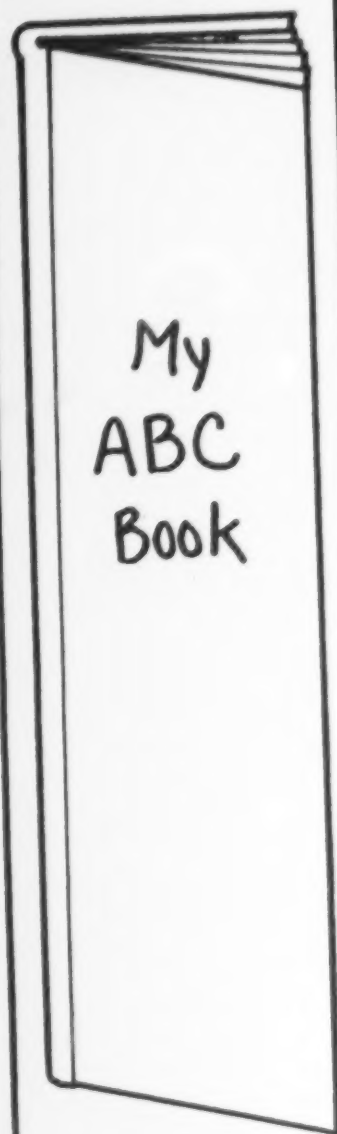


To make the game:

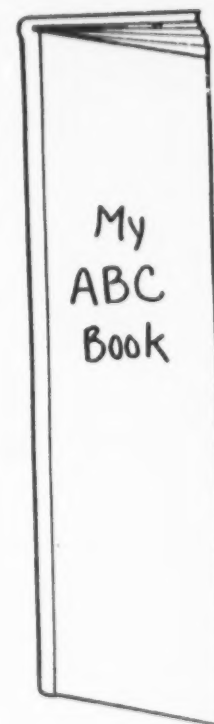
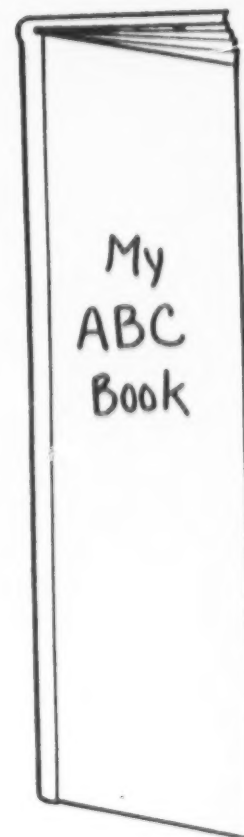
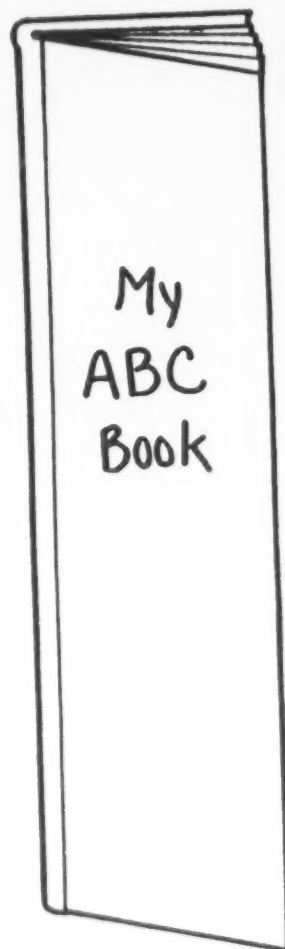
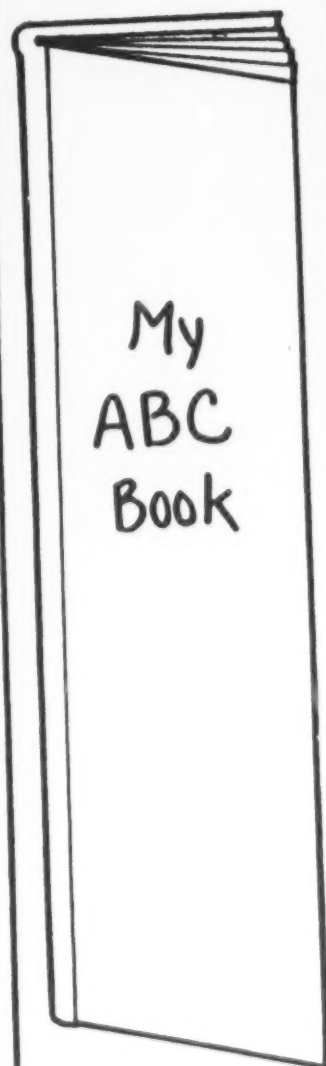
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the size seriation sheets,
each on a different color paper

Directions:

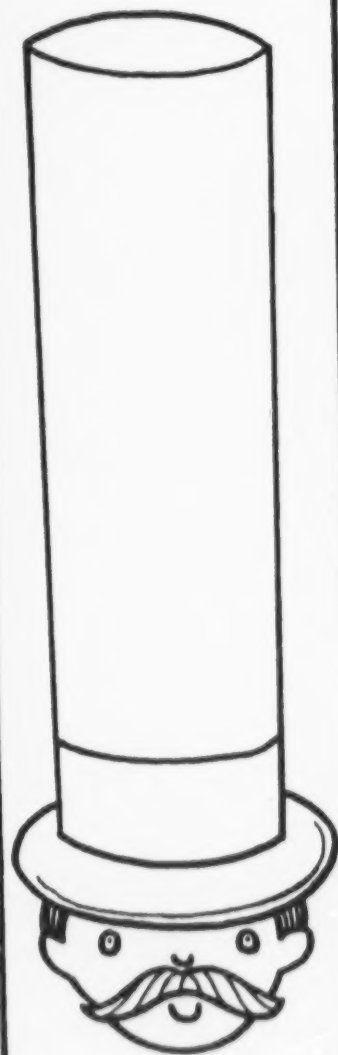
1. Laminate the seriation cards.
2. Cut the cards apart.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



79

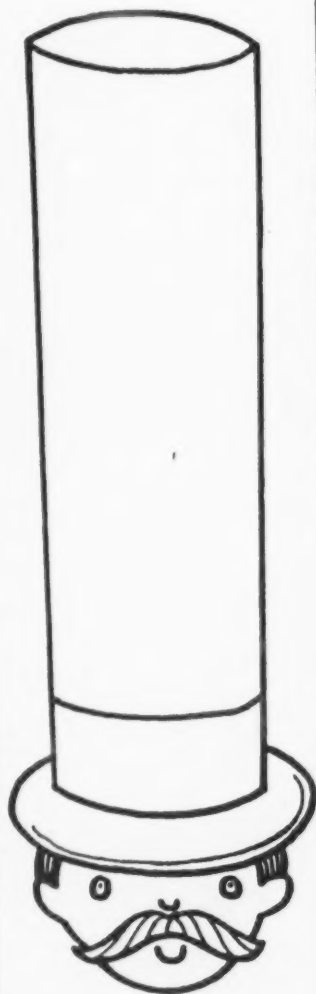


80

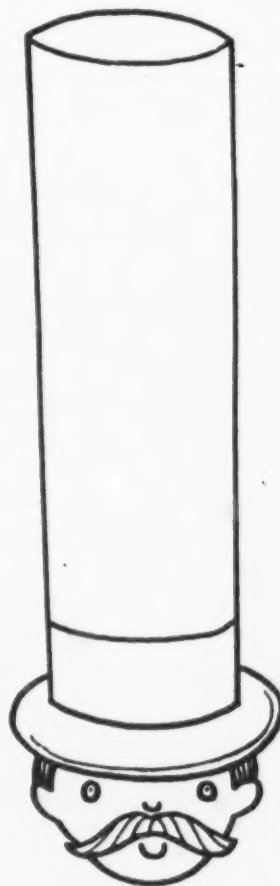


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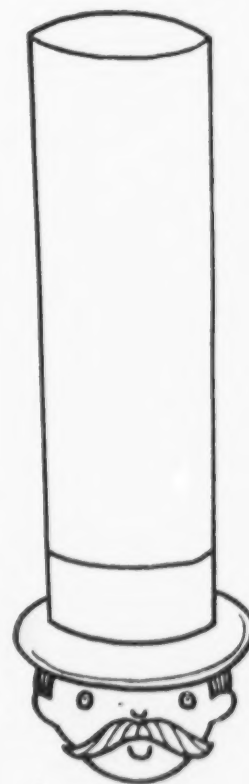
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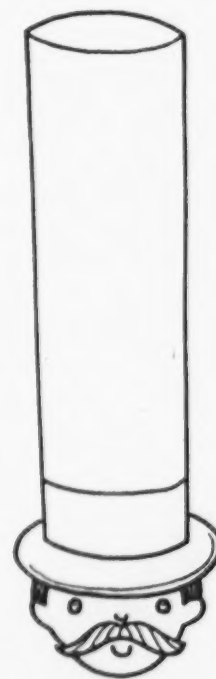
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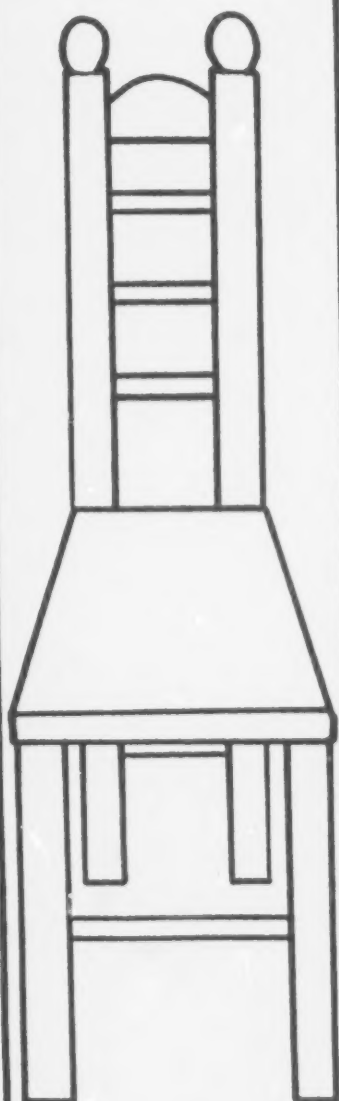


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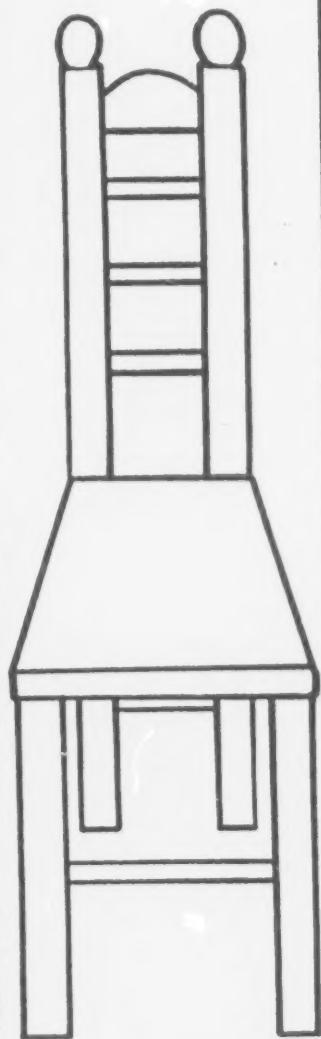
82

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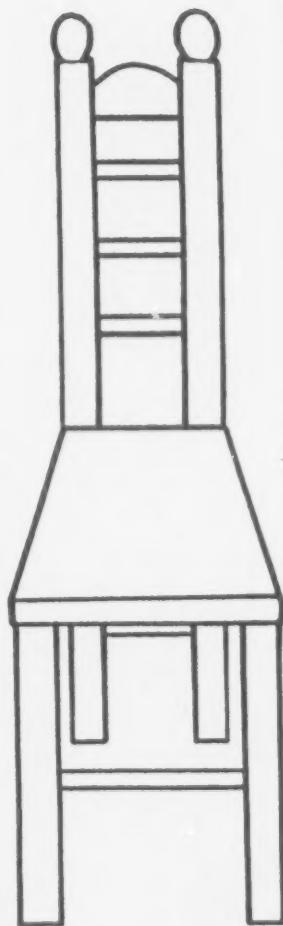


83

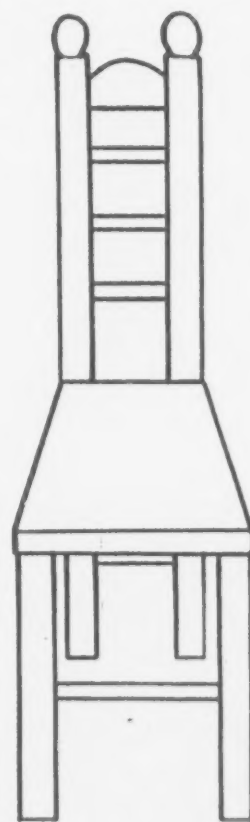
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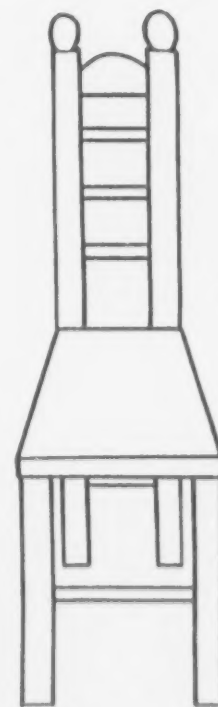
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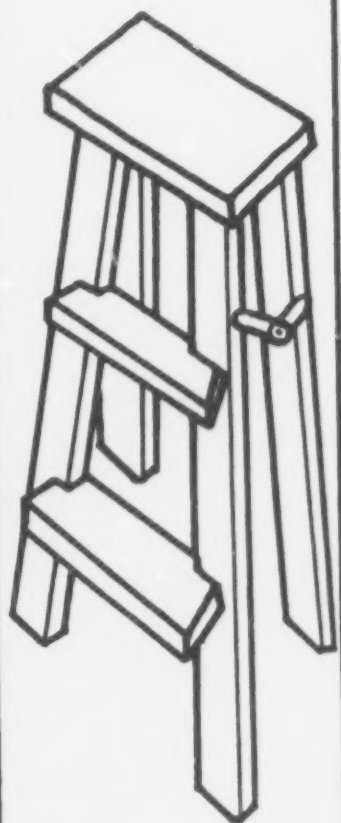


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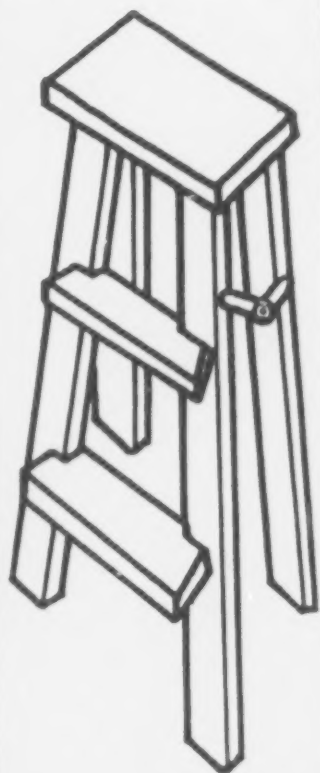
84

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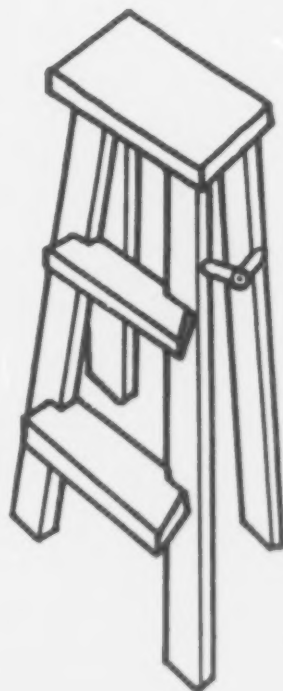


85

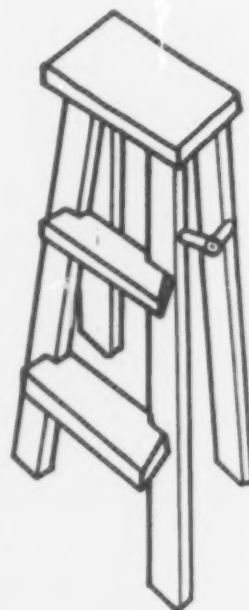
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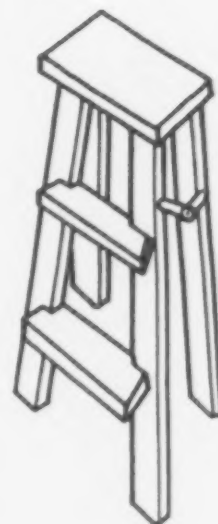
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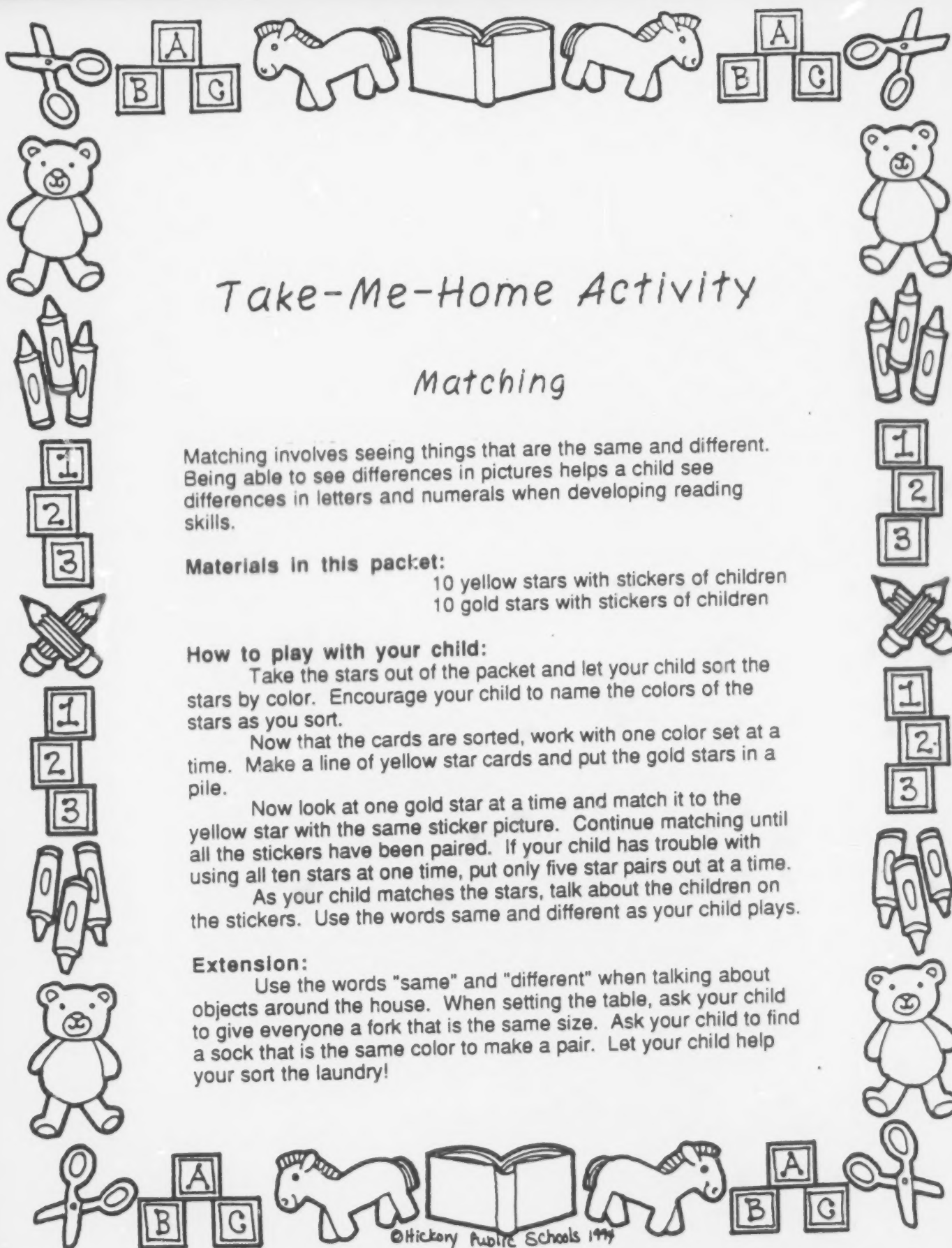


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86

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Take-Home Activity

Matching

Matching involves seeing things that are the same and different. Being able to see differences in pictures helps a child see differences in letters and numerals when developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 10 yellow stars with stickers of children
- 10 gold stars with stickers of children

How to play with your child:

Take the stars out of the packet and let your child sort the stars by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the stars as you sort.

Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. Make a line of yellow star cards and put the gold stars in a pile.

Now look at one gold star at a time and match it to the yellow star with the same sticker picture. Continue matching until all the stickers have been paired. If your child has trouble with using all ten stars at one time, put only five star pairs out at a time.

As your child matches the stars, talk about the children on the stickers. Use the words same and different as your child plays.

Extension:

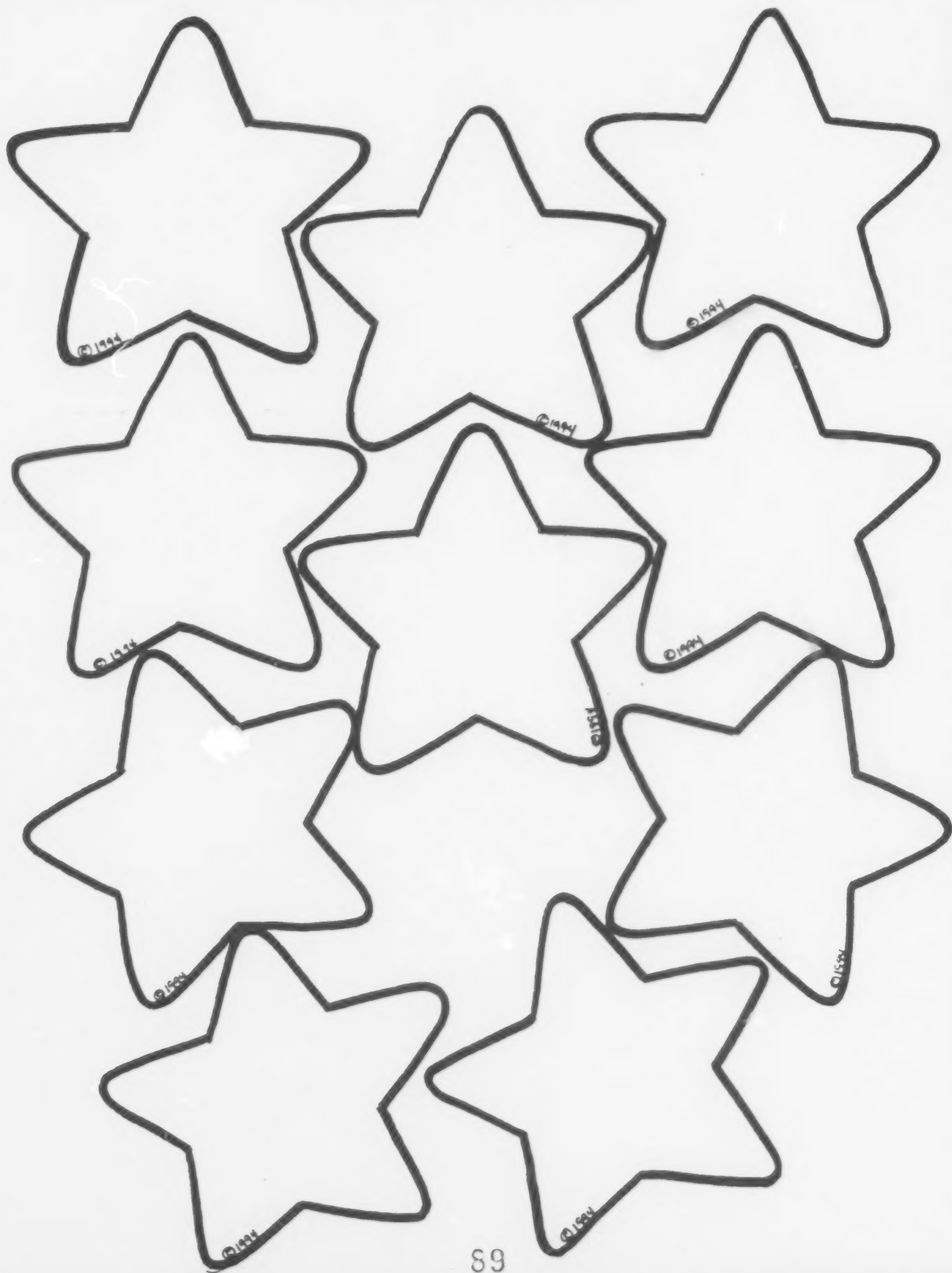
Use the words "same" and "different" when talking about objects around the house. When setting the table, ask your child to give everyone a fork that is the same size. Ask your child to find a sock that is the same color to make a pair. Let your child help your sort the laundry!

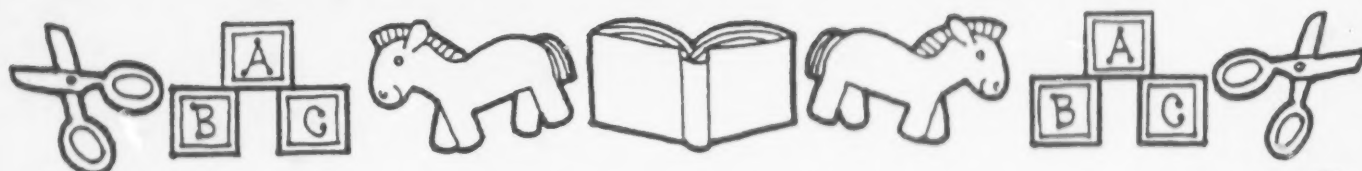
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the stars page, one yellow, one gold
2 sets of 10 different stickers of children

Directions:

1. Place a different sticker on each of the yellow stars.
2. Place the second set of stickers on the gold stars.
3. Laminate both sheets of stars
4. Cut the stars out.
5. Laminate the parent direction page.
6. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Matching

Matching involves seeing things that are the same and different. Being able to see differences in pictures helps a child see differences in letters and numerals when developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

10 light green cages with animal stickers

10 dark green cages with animal stickers

How to play with your child:

Take the cages out of the packet and let your child sort the cages by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the cages as you sort.

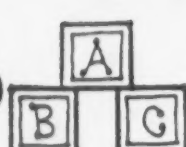
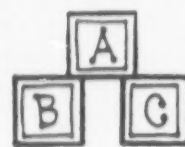
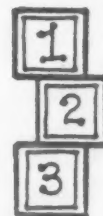
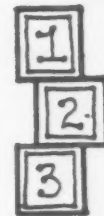
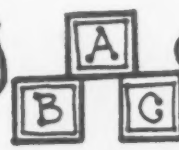
Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. Make a line of light green cages and put the dark green cages in a pile.

Now look at one dark green cage at a time and match it to the light green cage with the same sticker picture. Continue matching until all the stickers have been paired. If your child has trouble with using all ten cages at one time, put only five cage pairs out at a time.

As your child matches the cages, talk about the animals on the stickers. Use the words same and different as your child plays.

Extension:

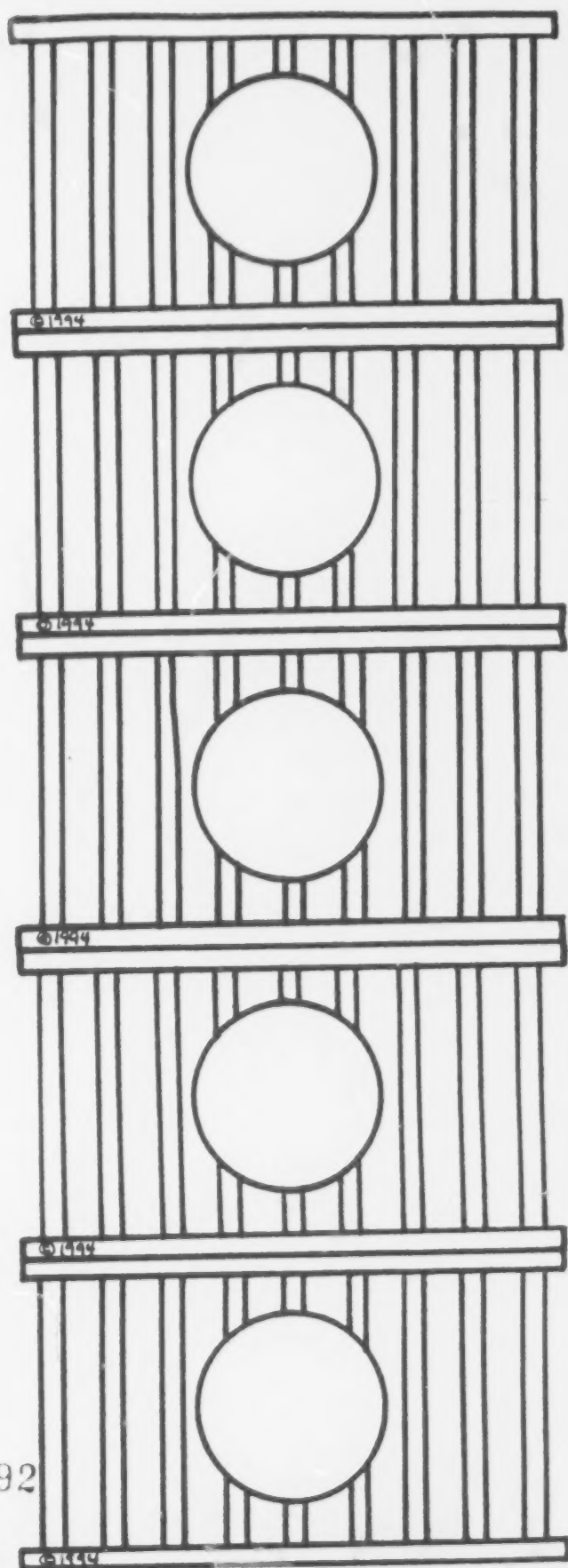
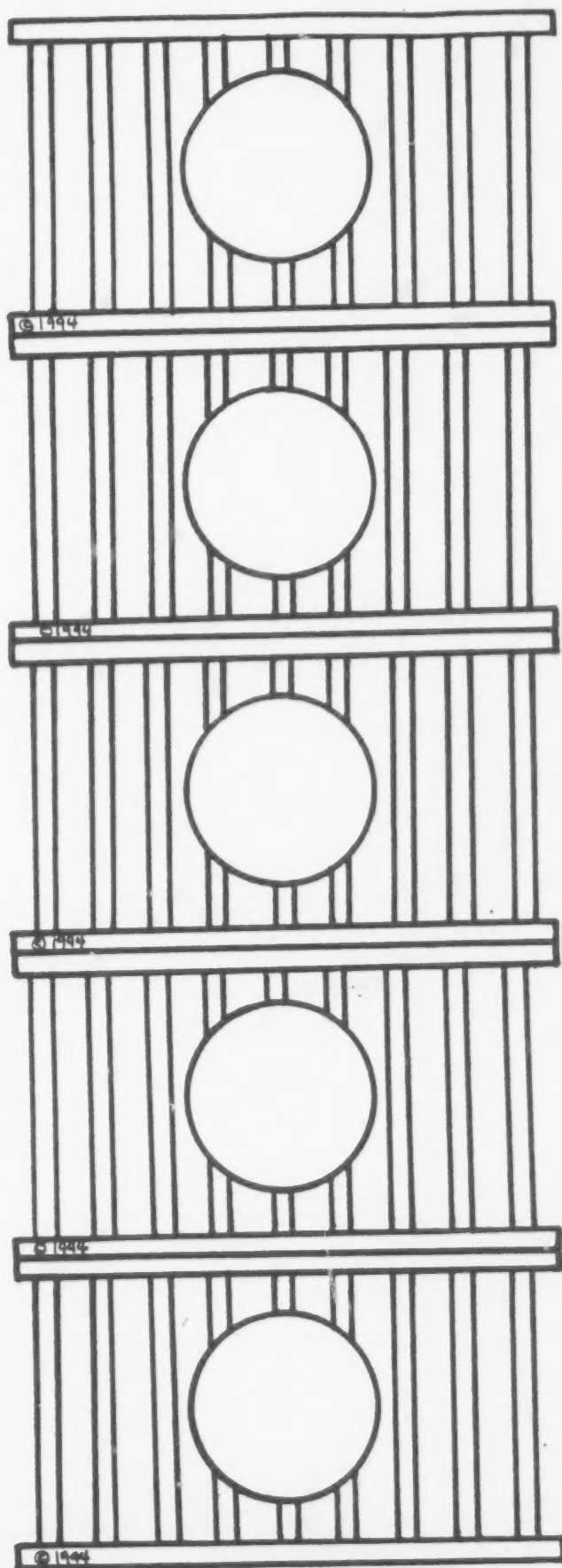
Play concentration! Turn all the cards upside down on a table. Each person turns up two cards at a time to try to find a match. Play until all the cards have been matched.

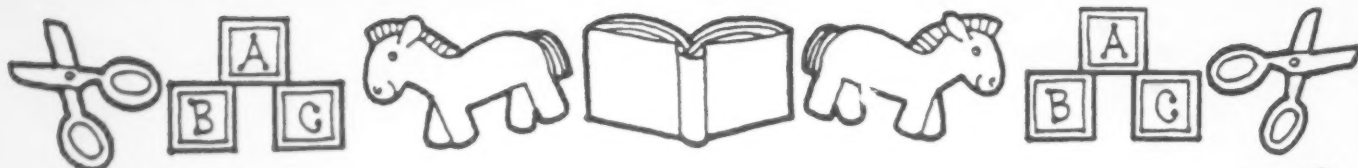


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the cages page, one light green, one dark green
2 sets of 10 different stickers of animals

- Directions:*
1. Place a different sticker on each of the light green cages.
 2. Place the second set of stickers on the dark green cages.
 3. Laminate both sheets of cages.
 4. Cut the cages out.
 5. Laminate the parent direction page.
 6. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Matching

Matching involves seeing things that are the same and different. Being able to see differences in pictures helps a child see differences in letters and numerals when developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 large board with ten fish tanks
- 10 individual fish tanks with stickers

How to play with your child:

Take the large playing board and separate fish tanks out of the packet. Place the large board on the table. Place the separate fish tank cards in a pile.

Look at one separate fish tank card at a time and match it to the same sticker on the large board. Continue playing until all fish tanks have been matched.

As your child matches the fish tanks, talk about the sea animals on the stickers. Use the words same and different as your child plays.

Extension:

Play other lotto matching games. You can make a matching game using pictures from magazines, or extra copies of photographs too!

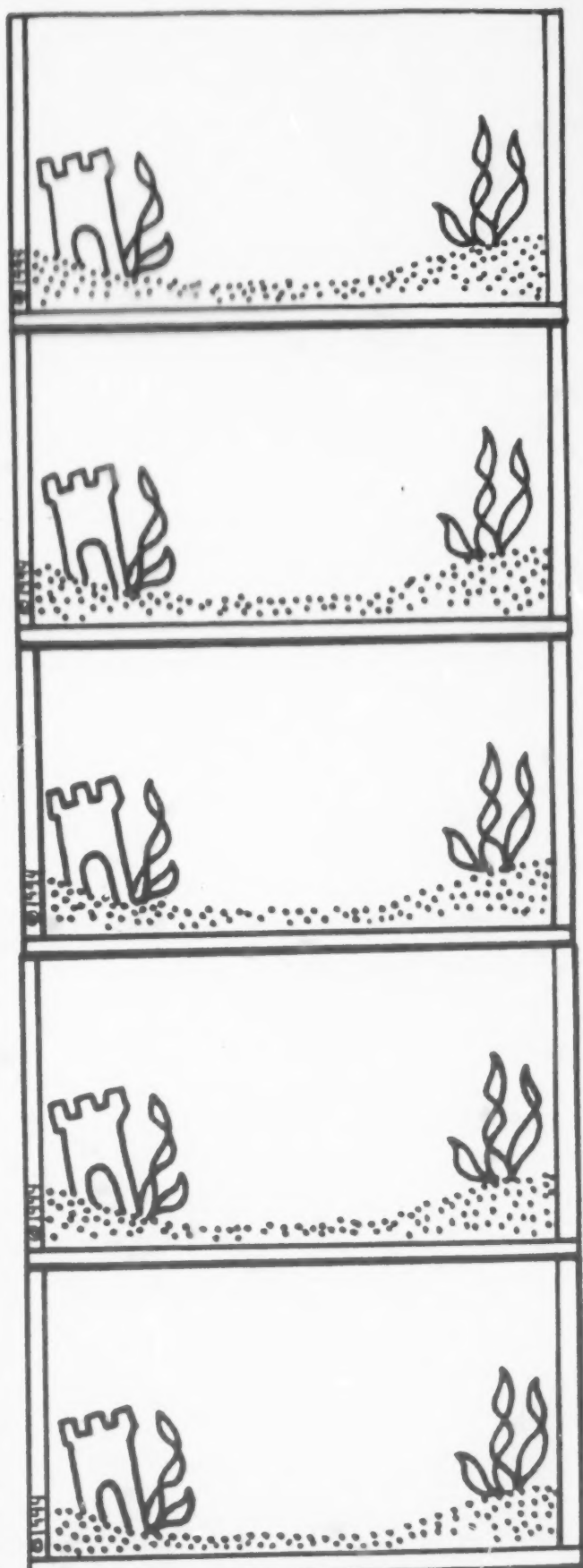
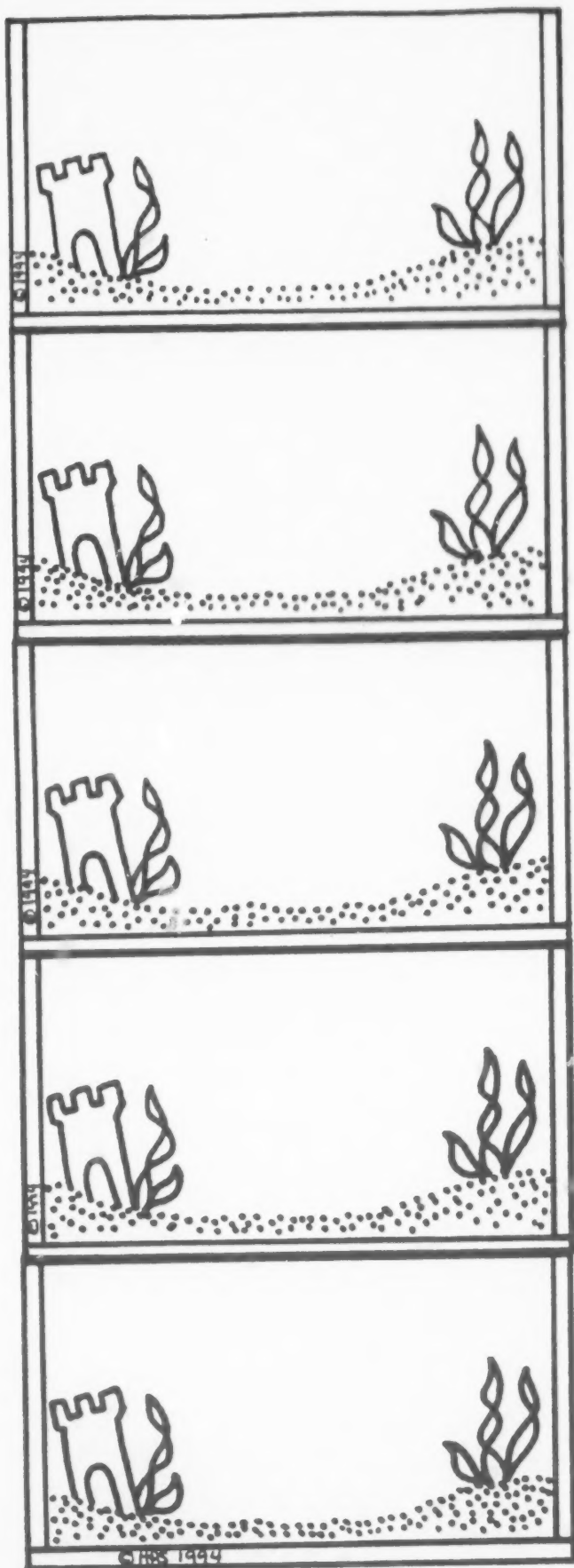


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the fish tank page, each a different color
2 sets of 10 different stickers of fish

Directions:

1. Place a different sticker on each of the fish tanks.
2. Place the second set of stickers on the other sheet of fish tanks.
3. Laminate both sheets of fish tanks.
4. Cut one sheet of fish tanks out.
5. DO NOT cut out the second sheet of fish tanks.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Matching

Matching involves seeing things that are the same and different. Being able to see differences in pictures helps a child see differences in letters and numerals when developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 large board with ten barns
- 10 individual barns with stickers

How to play with your child:

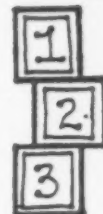
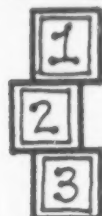
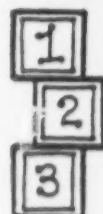
Take the large playing board and separate barns out of the packet. Place the large board on the table. Place the separate barns cards in a pile.

Look at one separate barn card at a time and match it to the same sticker on the large board. Continue playing until all the barns have been matched.

As your child matches the barns, talk about the farm animals on the stickers. Use the words same and different as your child plays.

Extension:

Borrow some farm books from the library. Ask the librarian for some good suggestions about life on the farm. Talk about the animals on the farm and what food products we use from the farm everyday. If you know of a farm near you, go for a visit!

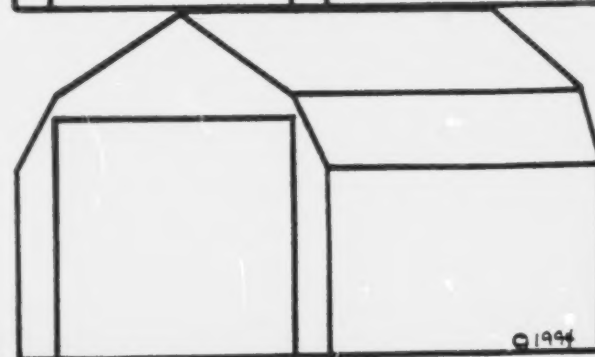
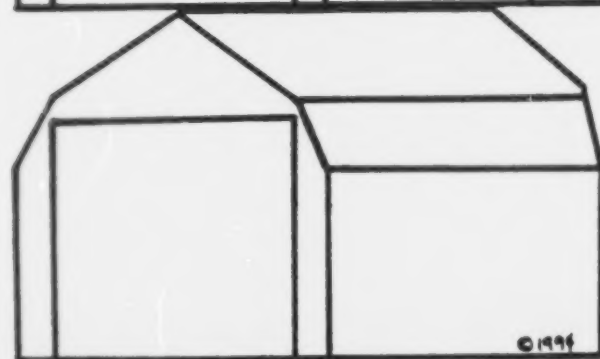
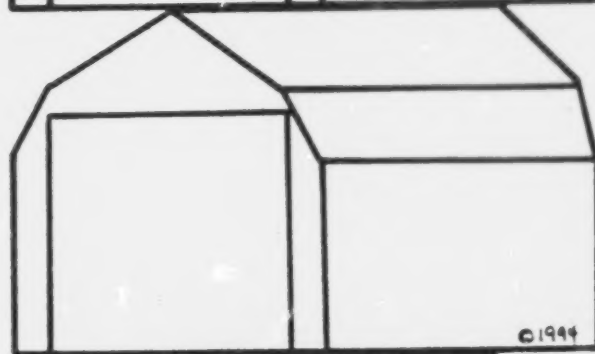
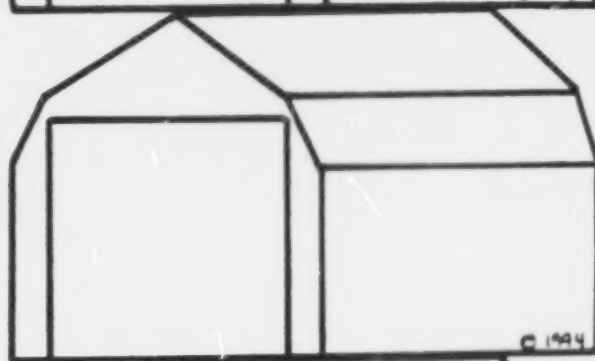
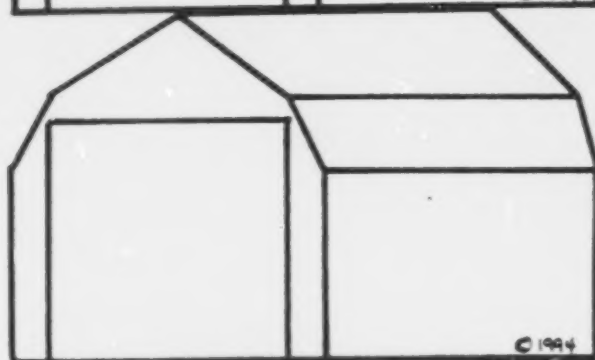
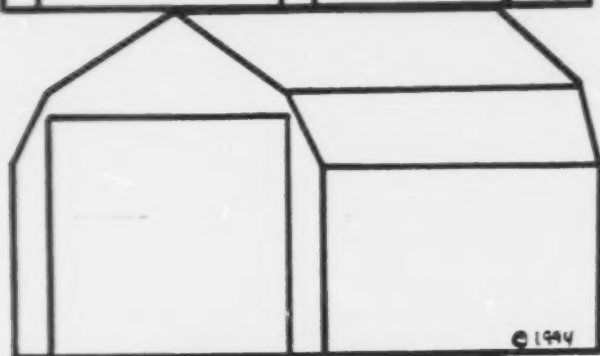
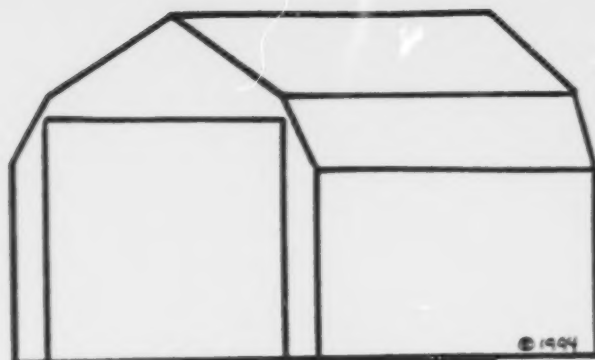
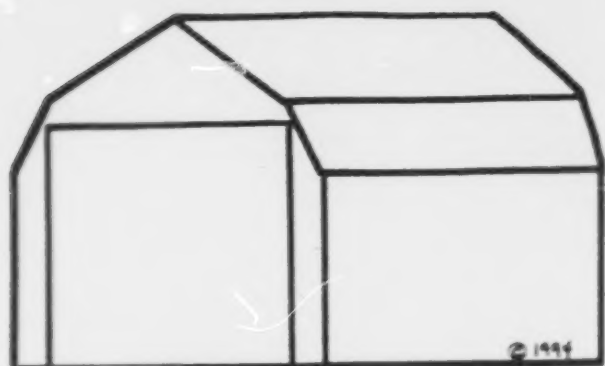


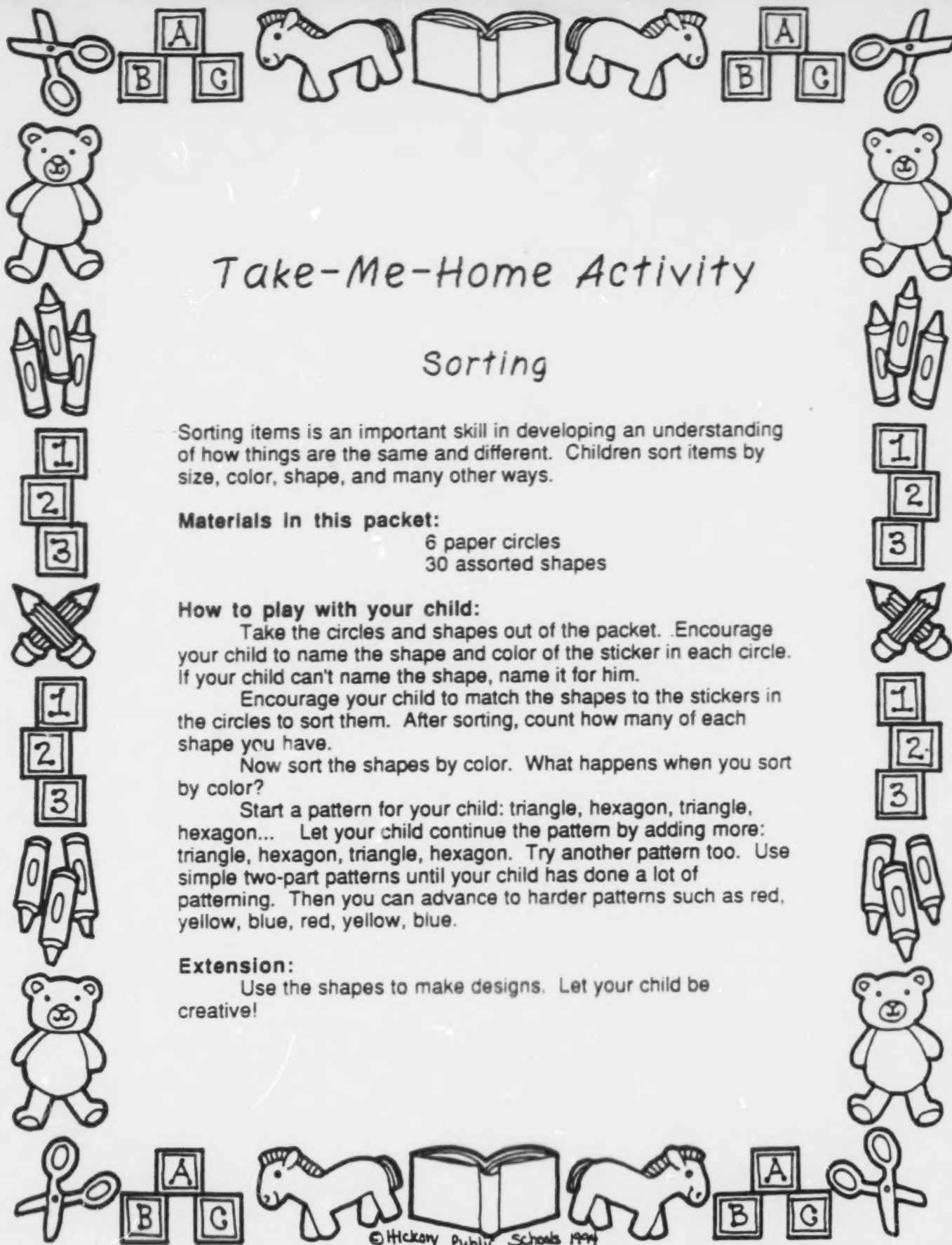
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the barn page, each a different color
2 sets of 10 different stickers of farm animals

Directions:

1. Place a different sticker on each of the barns.
2. Place the second set of stickers on the other sheet of barns.
3. Laminate both sheets of barns.
4. Cut one sheet of barns out.
5. DO NOT cut out the second sheet of barns.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

- 6 paper circles
- 30 assorted shapes

How to play with your child:

Take the circles and shapes out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the shape and color of the sticker in each circle. If your child can't name the shape, name it for him.

Encourage your child to match the shapes to the stickers in the circles to sort them. After sorting, count how many of each shape you have.

Now sort the shapes by color. What happens when you sort by color?

Start a pattern for your child: triangle, hexagon, triangle, hexagon... Let your child continue the pattern by adding more: triangle, hexagon, triangle, hexagon. Try another pattern too. Use simple two-part patterns until your child has done a lot of patterning. Then you can advance to harder patterns such as red, yellow, blue, red, yellow, blue.

Extension:

Use the shapes to make designs. Let your child be creative!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
2 copies of the paper circles
30 assorted shapes (parquetry shapes)
parquetry sticker shapes, one sticker for each shape

Directions:

1. Place a different parquetry sticker in the center of each paper circle. (If you don't have the parquetry stickers, trace the parquetry shapes, and color the outline the same color as the parquetry shape.)
2. Laminate the shape labeled paper circles.
3. Cut out the paper circles.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Shapes

Matching and naming shapes is an important beginning math skill. Working with shapes and learning their names is your child's first experience with geometry. Your child will be using shapes in many ways for the rest of his life!

Materials in this packet:

6 dinosaur cards with shape outlines
12 matching blocks

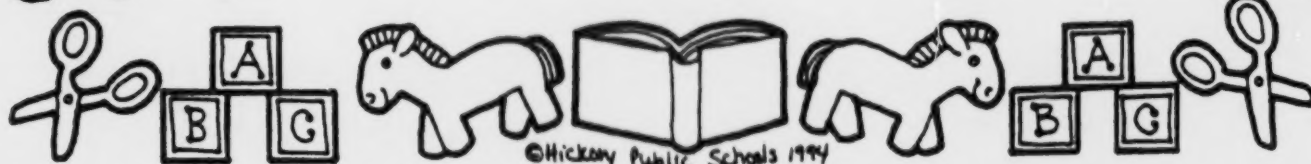
How to play with your child:

Take the dinosaur cards and the blocks out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the shapes on the dinosaurs. Ask your child to find the block that fits inside the outline on the dinosaur. Match all the blocks to the shape outlines. Name the colors of the blocks as your child plays.

For extra fun, play only with the 12 blocks. Put one block of each shape in a small paper bag. Leave the other shapes on the table. Let your child pick a shape block from the table. Then encourage him to reach into the bag and feel the shapes blocks to find the matching shape block.

Extension:

Use the blocks to make small designs. Combine and recombine the shapes in any way your child decides. Allow your child to trace the blocks on newspaper or construction paper to make designs too.

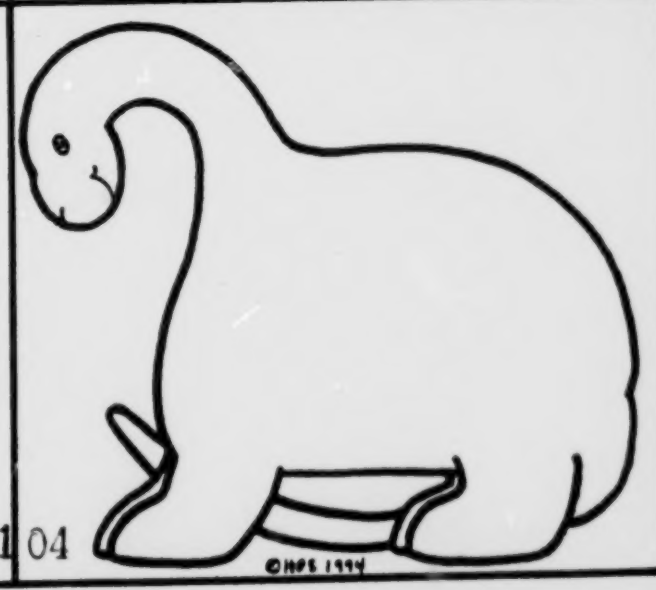
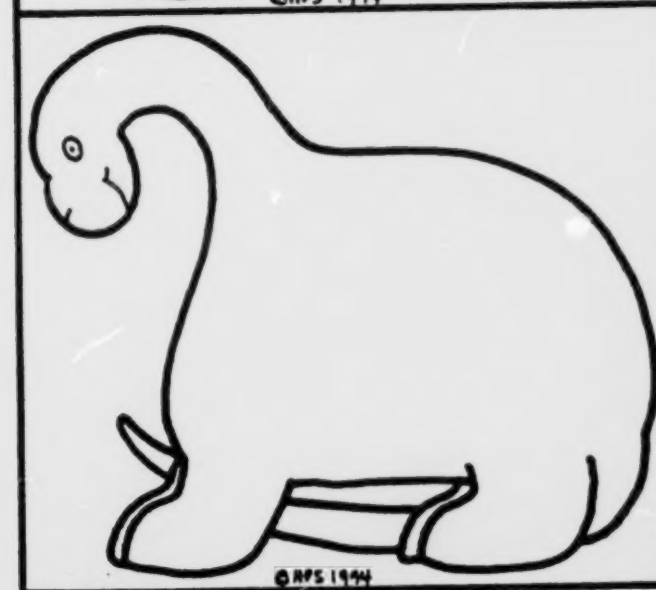
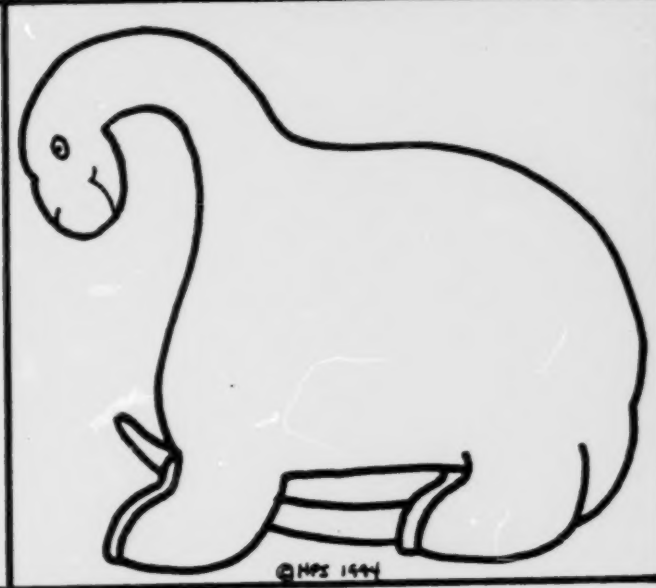
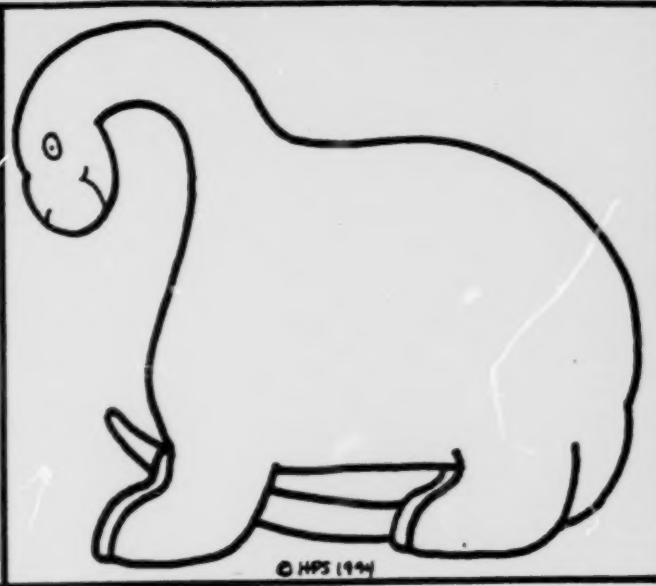


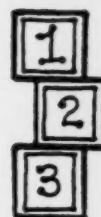
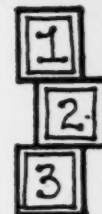
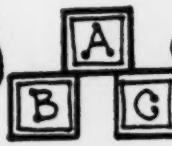
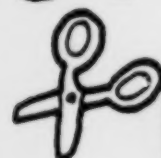
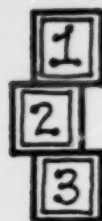
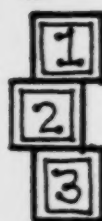
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the dinosaur page
12 parquetry shapes, 2 in each shape

Directions:

1. Trace the outline of the different parquetry shapes, one shape on each dinosaur.
2. Outline the traced shaped in black.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Shapes

Matching and naming shapes is an important beginning math skill. Working with shapes and learning their names is your child's first experience with geometry. Your child will be using shapes in many ways for the rest of his life!

Materials in this packet:

8 bears, cut in half, with matching shapes

How to play with your child:

Take the half bears out of the packet. Place all the bear halves face up. To begin with, let your child choose a bear and ask him to find the other half of the bear with the same shape. Put the bear halves together like a puzzle to match the shapes.

If your child is ready, ask him to choose a shape and name it and then find the matching shape. If your child can match the shapes, but is not ready to name them yet, don't worry. You should name the shapes for your child after he has matched them so he gets used to hearing the names. With time, your child will learn the shape names too!

Extension:

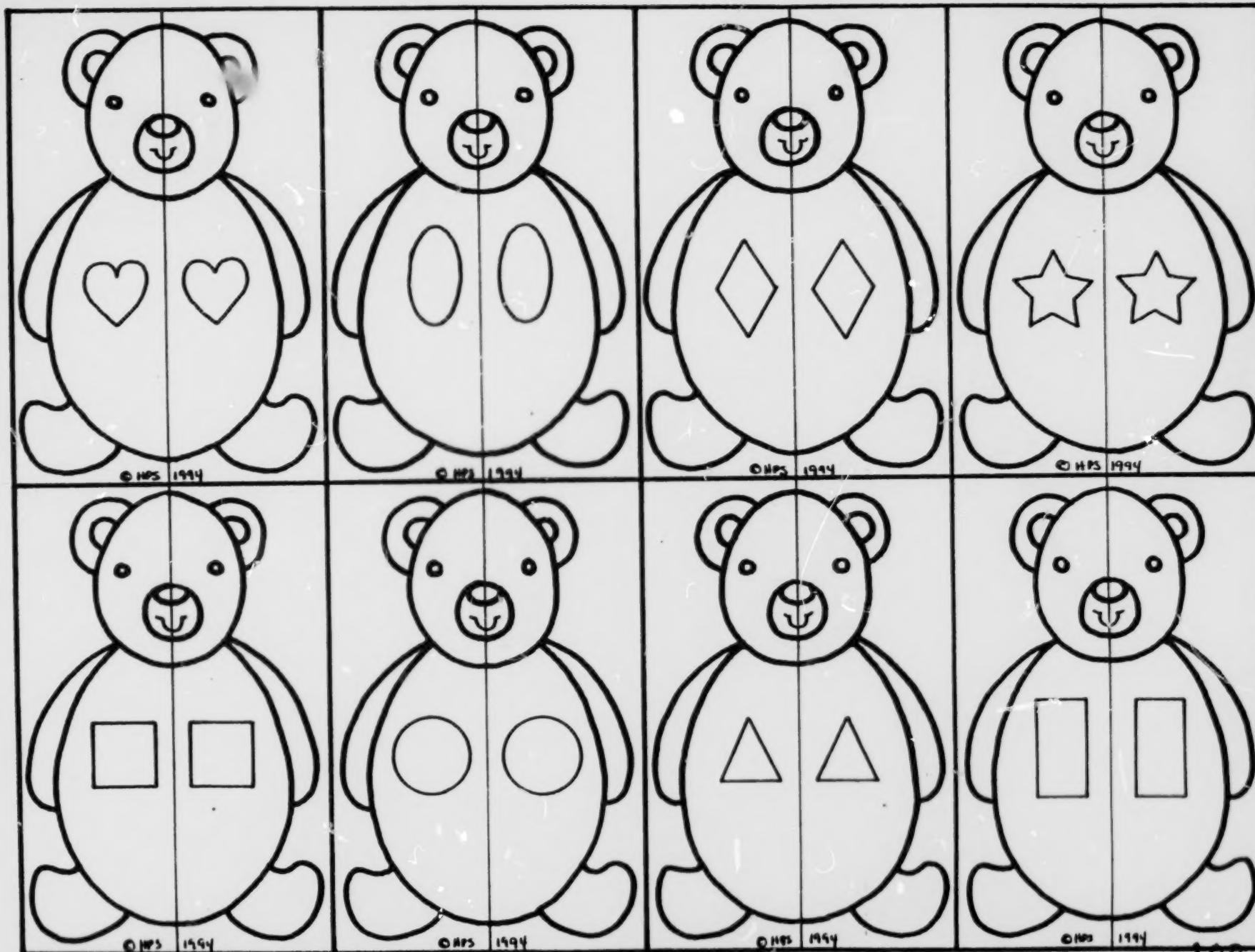
Draw shapes on pieces of newspaper or construction paper. Let your child trace the shape or draw one on their own. Don't expect a perfect shape the first time. This will take a lot of practice. Let your child draw the best he can and praise him for whatever he does!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the bear page

Directions:

1. Laminate the bears.
2. Cut the bear cards out.
3. Cut each bear in half.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Shapes



Matching and naming shapes is an important beginning math skill. Working with shapes and learning their names is your child's first experience with geometry. Your child will be using shapes in many ways for the rest of his life!

Materials in this packet:

8 fish, cut in half, with matching shapes

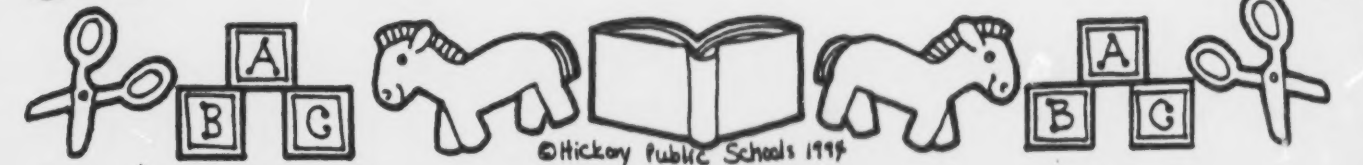
How to play with your child:

Take the fish halves out of the packet. Place all the fish halves face up. To begin with, let your child choose a fish and ask him to find the other half of the fish with a picture of an object that is the same shape. Put the fish halves together like a puzzle to match the shape with the shape object.

If your child is ready, ask him to choose a shape and name it and then find the matching object shape. If your child can match the shapes, but is not ready to name them yet, don't worry. You should name the shapes for your child after he has matched them so he gets used to hearing the names. Your child can probably name the objects by himself, and with time, your child will learn the shape names too!

Extension:

Encourage your child to find shapes in the world around him. Doors are rectangles, windows are squares, and sometimes windows are half-circles. You can play "I Spy." To play, say "I spy a square." Let your child look around and name something he sees that is shaped like a square. Let your child be the one who starts the game by saying "I spy.." too.

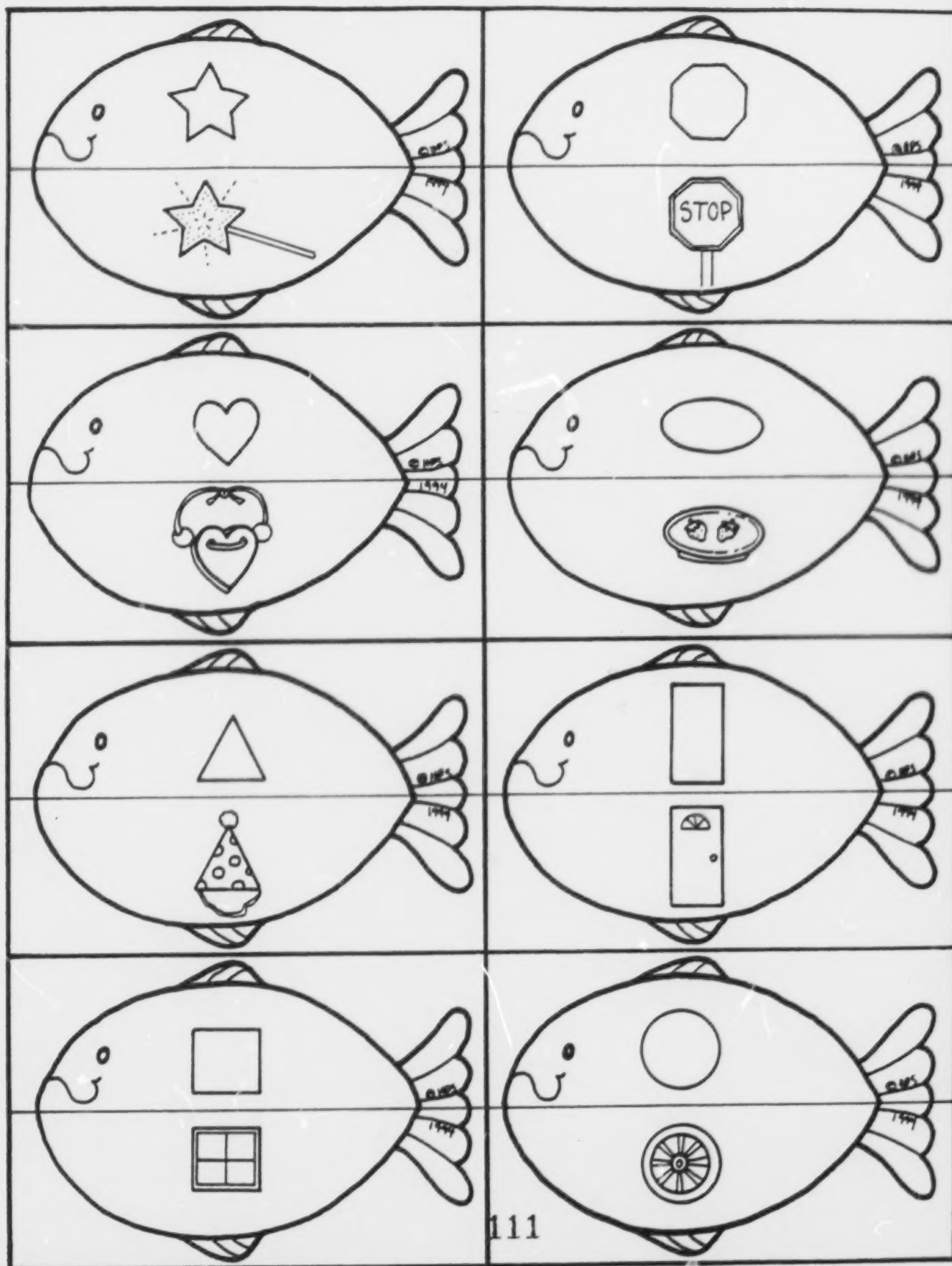


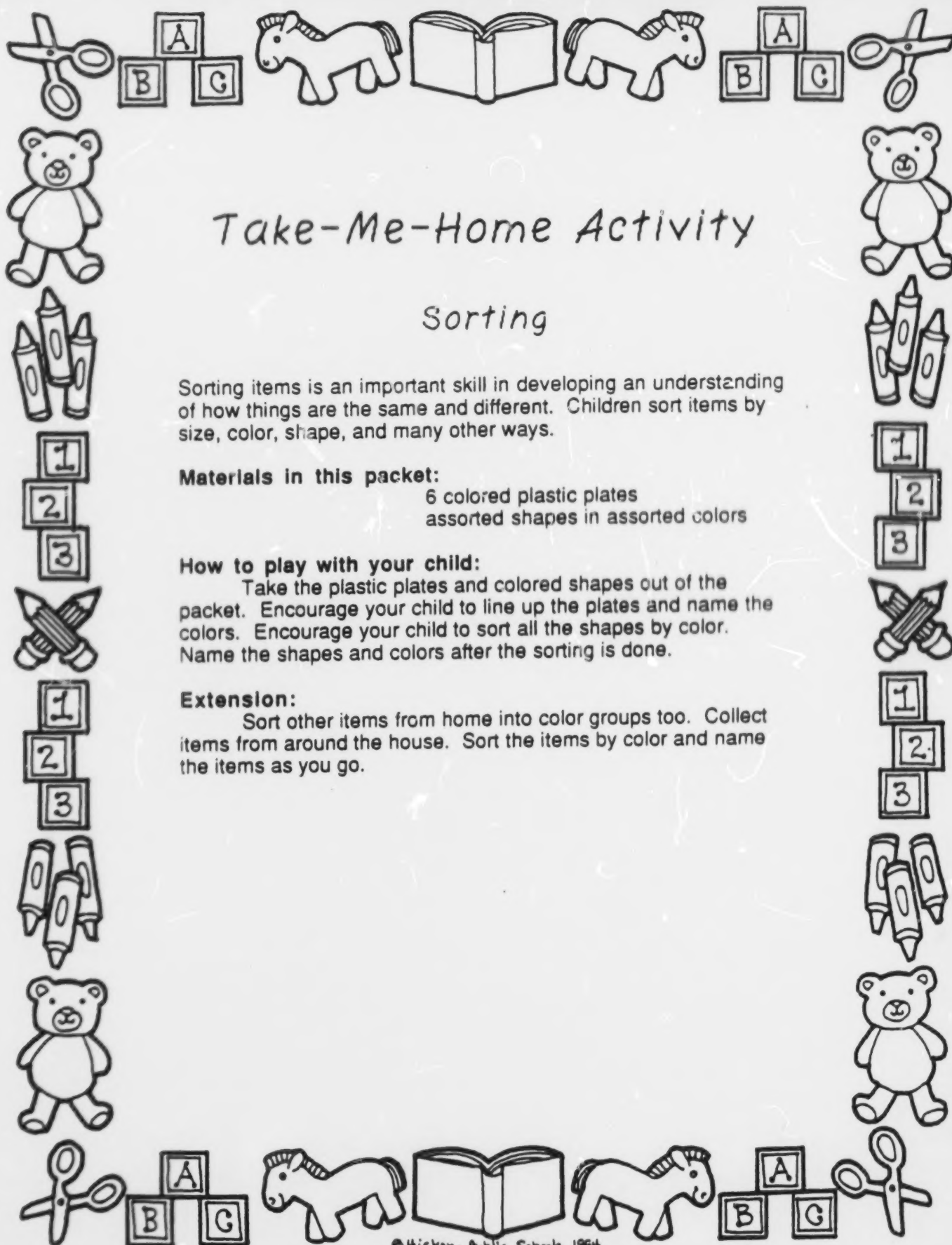
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the fish page

Directions:

1. Laminate the fish page.
2. Cut out the fish cards.
3. Cut the fish cards in half.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

6 colored plastic plates
assorted shapes in assorted colors

How to play with your child:

Take the plastic plates and colored shapes out of the packet. Encourage your child to line up the plates and name the colors. Encourage your child to sort all the shapes by color. Name the shapes and colors after the sorting is done.

Extension:

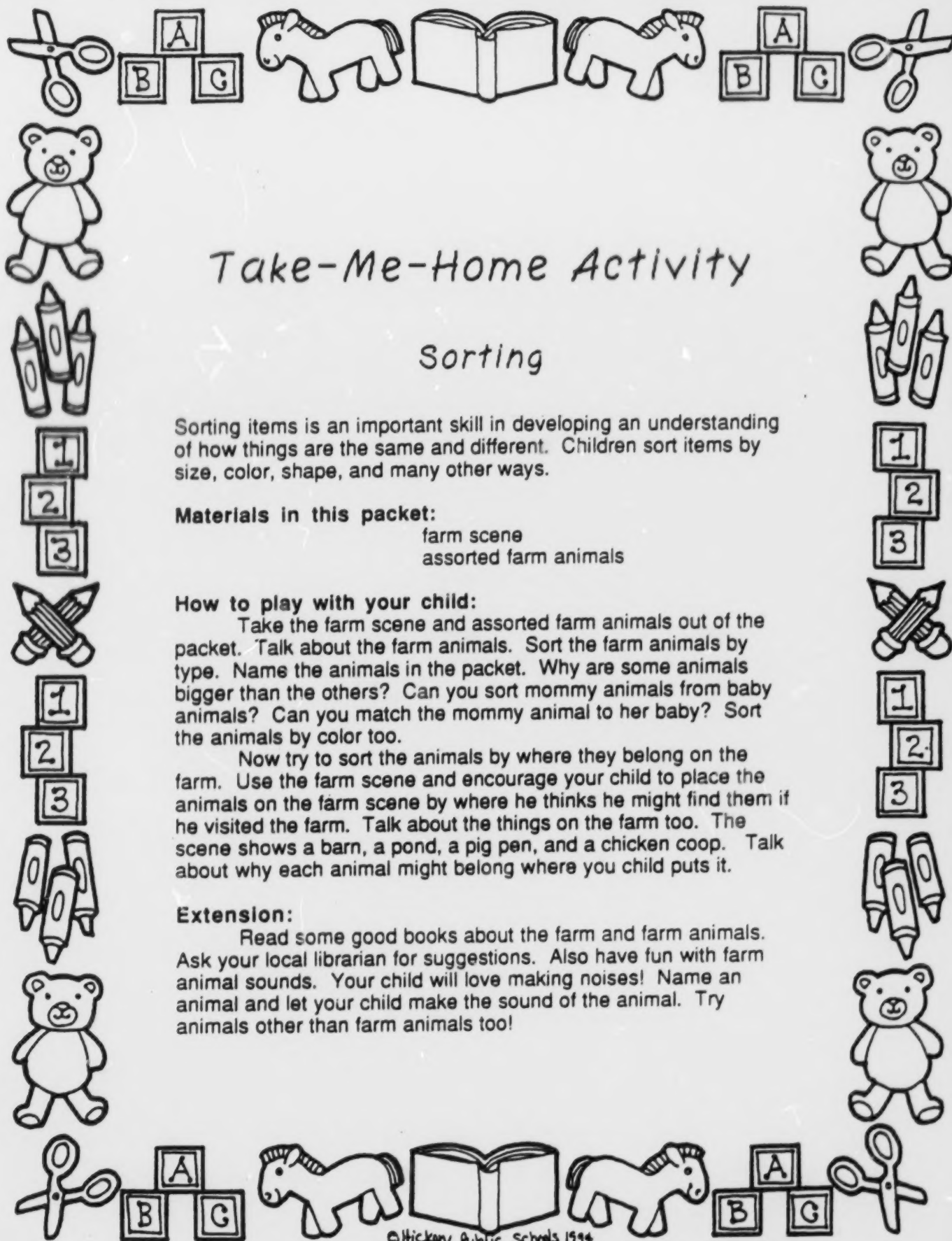
Sort other items from home into color groups too. Collect items from around the house. Sort the items by color and name the items as you go.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
6 plastic plates, one red, one orange, one blue, one green, one purple, one yellow
assorted plastic shapes (or erasers) in the same six colors

Directions:

1. Laminate the parent direction page.
2. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

farm scene
assorted farm animals

How to play with your child:

Take the farm scene and assorted farm animals out of the packet. Talk about the farm animals. Sort the farm animals by type. Name the animals in the packet. Why are some animals bigger than the others? Can you sort mommy animals from baby animals? Can you match the mommy animal to her baby? Sort the animals by color too.

Now try to sort the animals by where they belong on the farm. Use the farm scene and encourage your child to place the animals on the farm scene by where he thinks he might find them if he visited the farm. Talk about the things on the farm too. The scene shows a barn, a pond, a pig pen, and a chicken coop. Talk about why each animal might belong where you child puts it.

Extension:

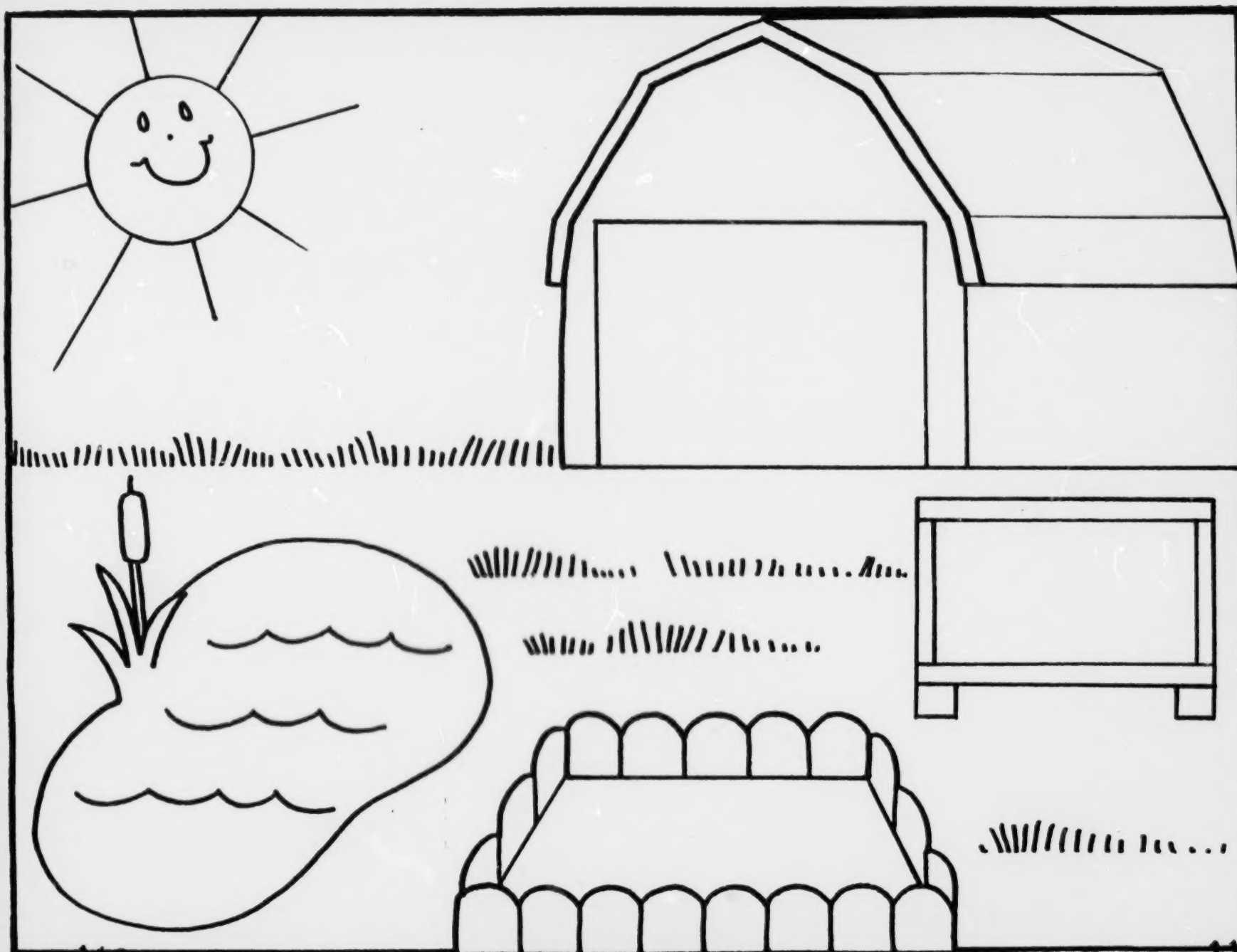
Read some good books about the farm and farm animals. Ask your local librarian for suggestions. Also have fun with farm animal sounds. Your child will love making noises! Name an animal and let your child make the sound of the animal. Try animals other than farm animals too!

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the farm scene page
assorted plastic farm animals

Directions:

1. Color and laminate the farm scene.
2. Laminate the parent direction page.
3. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

town scene
assorted vehicles

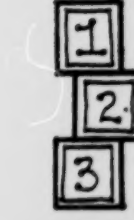
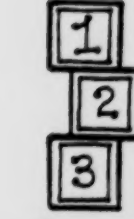
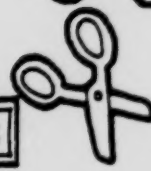
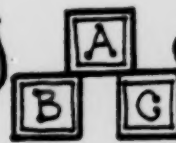
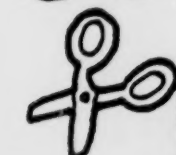
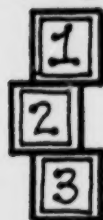
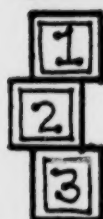
How to play with your child:

Take the town scene and assorted vehicles out of the packet. Talk about the different vehicles. Sort the vehicles by type. Name the vehicles in the packet. Sort the vehicles by color too. Also sort the vehicles by where they usually go: in the air, on the road, and in the water.

Now try to sort the vehicles by where they belong on the town scene. Use the town scene and encourage your child to place the vehicles on the town scene by where he thinks he might find them if he went to town. Talk about the things in the town too. The scene shows a river, an airport, a railroad, and buildings. Let your child play with the vehicles around the town after sorting.

Extension:

Take a trip to the airport and watch the airplanes come and go. Visit the railroad station if you have one. Visit the fire station too. Check and make sure your smoke detector at home is working! Talk about and name vehicles you see as you drive on the roads with your child.

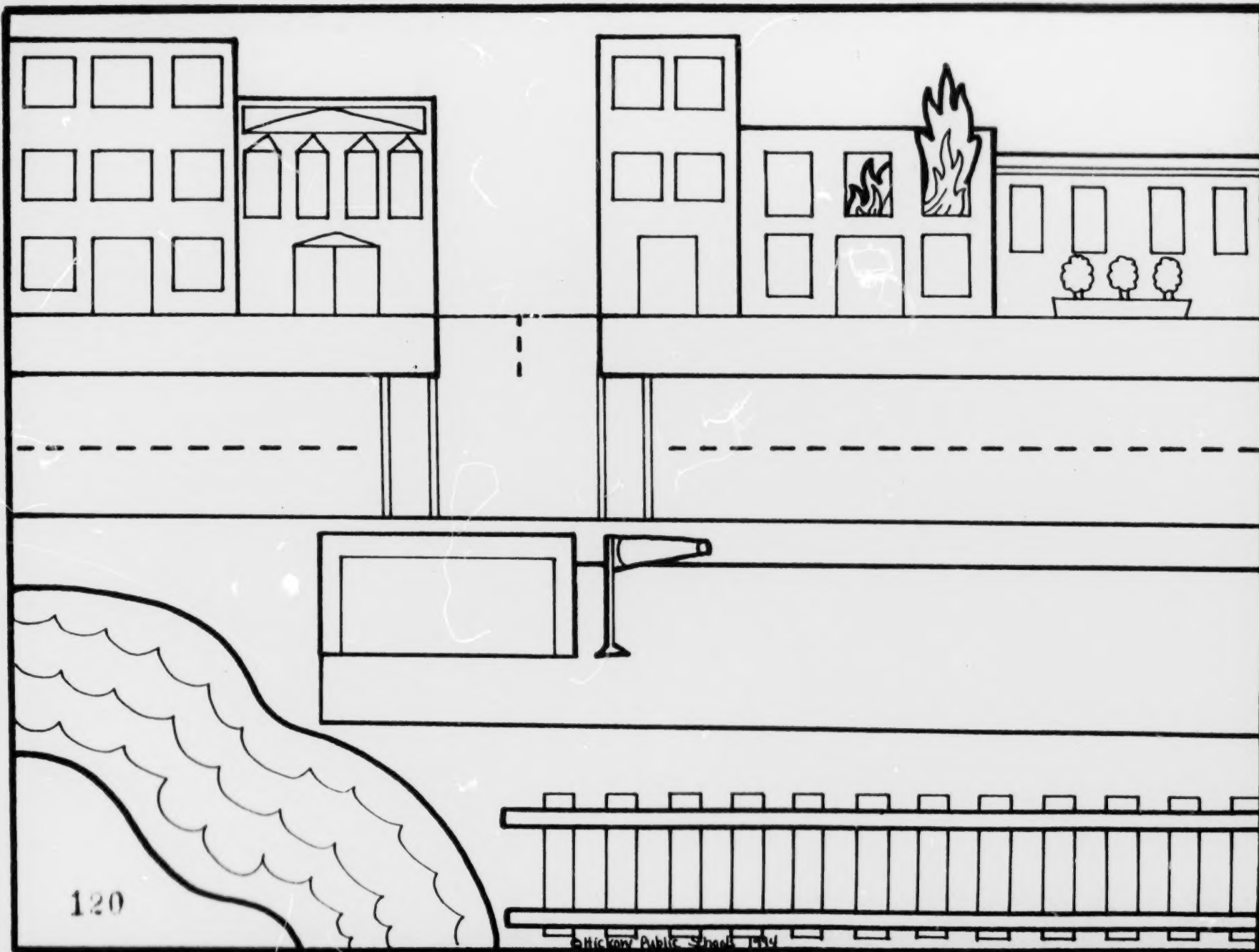


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the city scene page
assorted plastic vehicles

Directions:

1. Color and laminate the city scene.
2. Laminate the parent direction page.
3. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Hickory Public School 1914



Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

- large beds in tan, red, blue, green, yellow
- medium bed in tan
- small bed in tan
- 4 large bears
- 4 medium bears
- 8 small bears

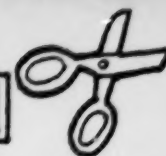
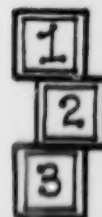
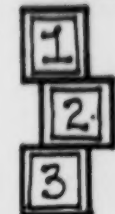
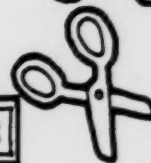
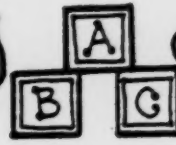
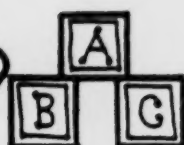
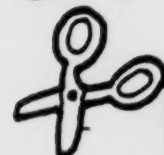
How to play with your child:

Take the bears and beds out of the packet. Encourage your child to line up the red, blue, green, and yellow beds. Sort the bears by color by putting them in the matching colored beds. Which bed has the most bears? Which one has the least? Do any beds have the same number of bears?

Now use only the tan beds. Encourage your child to line up the tan beds in size order from smallest to largest. Now sort the bears by size. Put the small bears in the small bed, medium in the medium bed, and large in the large bed. Which size bear has the most?

Extension:

Sort kitchen utensils by size. Allow your child to sort the utensils after washing dishes and put all the small spoons in the small stack and the medium in the medium stack and large in a large stack. Your child will get meaningful practice sorting and you'll get help with the chores!

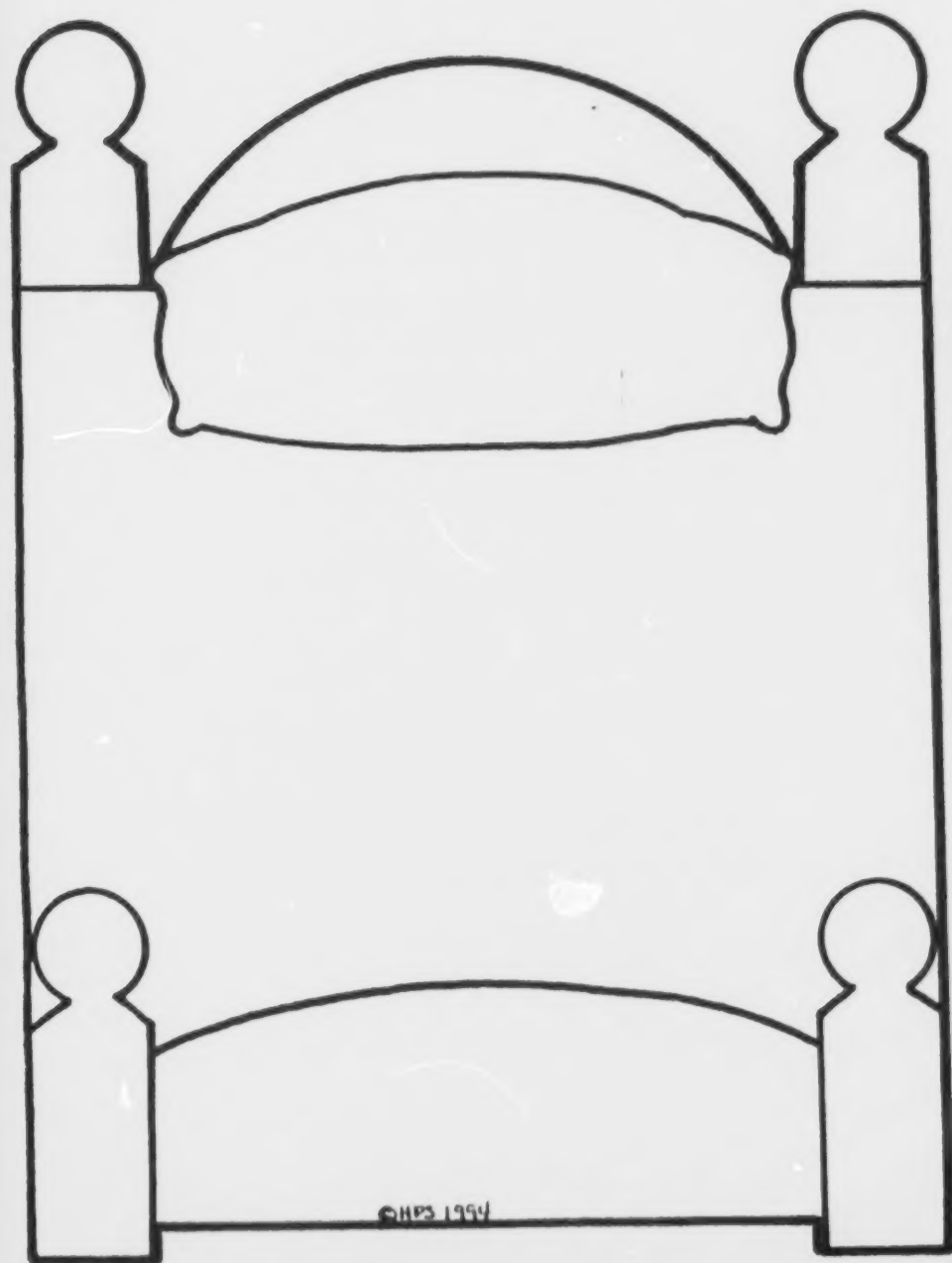


To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
5 copies of the large bed, one each on tan,
blue, green, red, and yellow paper
1 copy of the small and medium beds on tan
4 plastic bears, large
4 plastic bears, medium
8 plastic bears, small

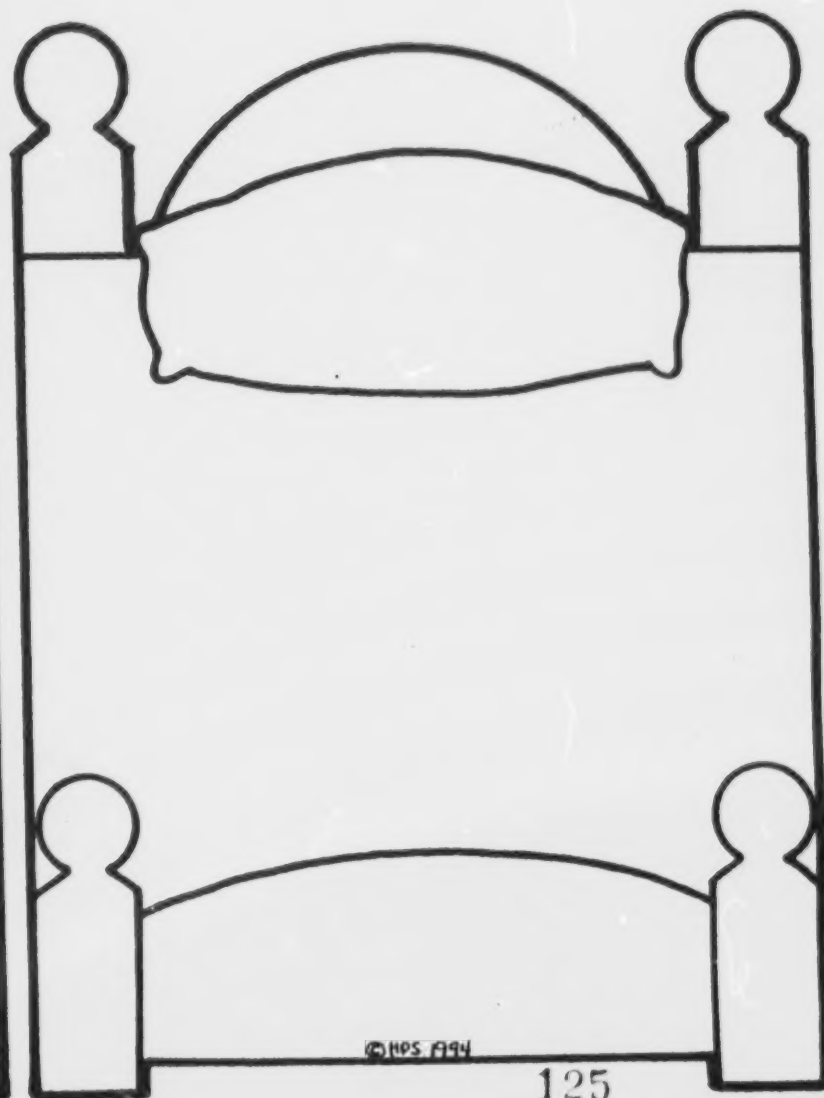
Directions:

1. Laminate all the beds.
2. Cut out all the beds.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



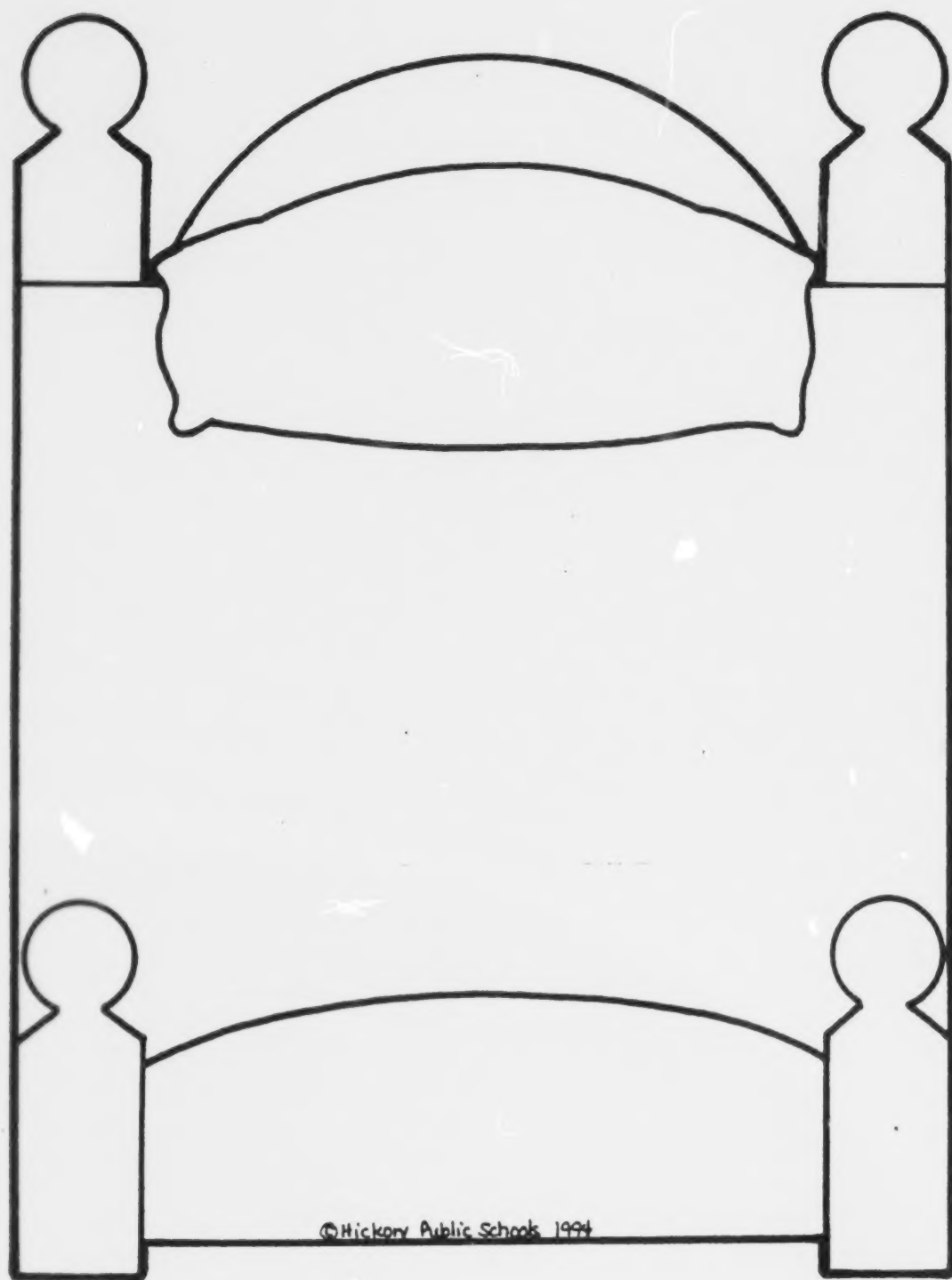
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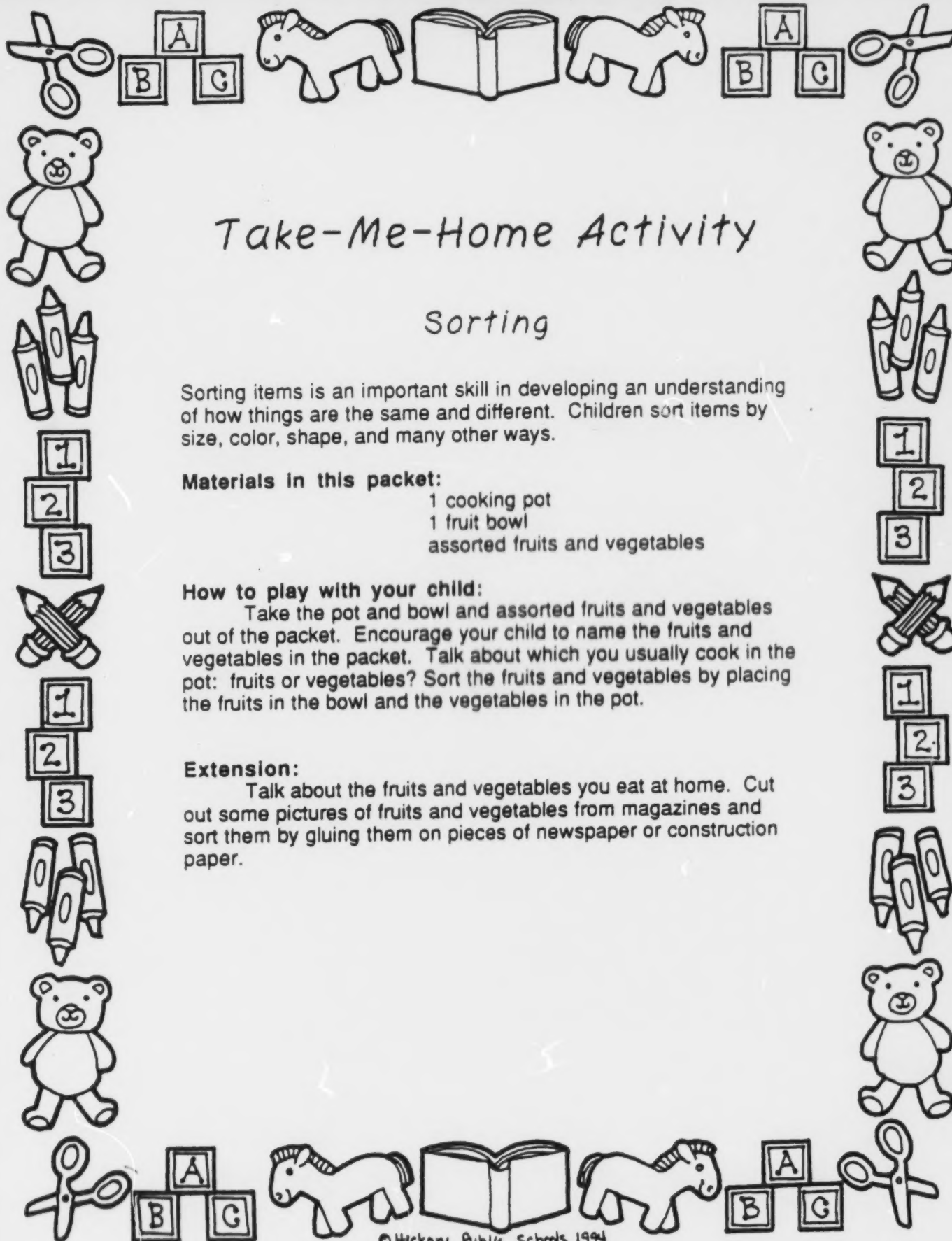
124



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125





Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

- 1 cooking pot
- 1 fruit bowl
- assorted fruits and vegetables

How to play with your child:

Take the pot and bowl and assorted fruits and vegetables out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the fruits and vegetables in the packet. Talk about which you usually cook in the pot: fruits or vegetables? Sort the fruits and vegetables by placing the fruits in the bowl and the vegetables in the pot.

Extension:

Talk about the fruits and vegetables you eat at home. Cut out some pictures of fruits and vegetables from magazines and sort them by gluing them on pieces of newspaper or construction paper.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the pot and bowl page
plastic assorted fruits (or erasers)
plastic assorted vegetables (or erasers)

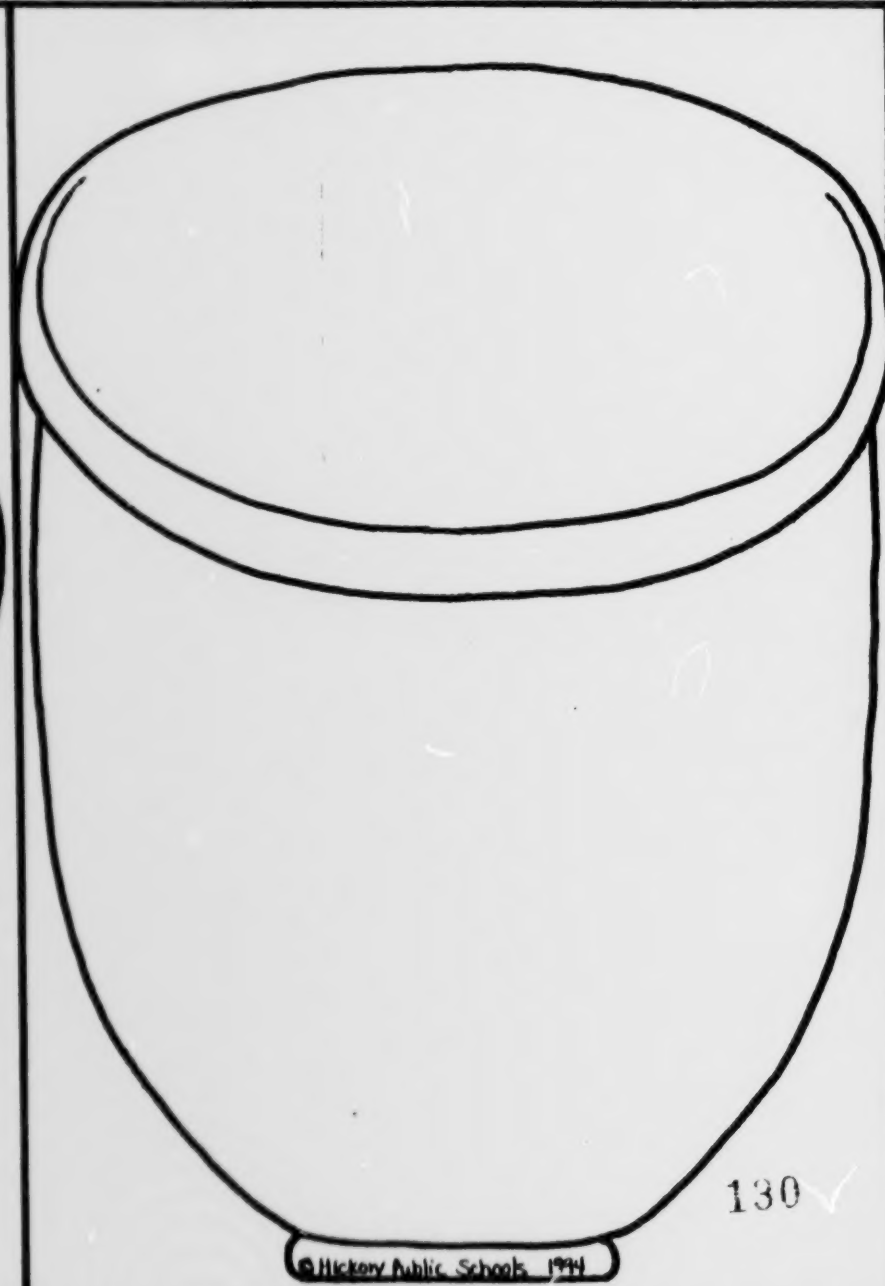
Directions:

1. Laminate the pot and bowl page.
2. Cut the pot and bowl out.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



129

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130 ✓

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Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

graph
assorted fruits

How to play with your child:

Take the graph and assorted fruits out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the fruits shown at the bottom of the graph.

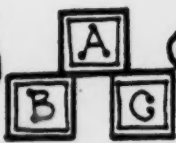
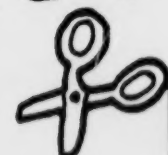
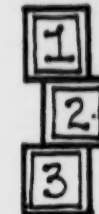
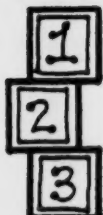
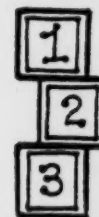
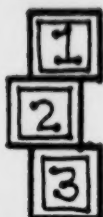
Explain that to make a graph, you sort according to the name at the bottom of the column. All the grapes must go in the grape row, strawberries in the strawberry row, etc. Encourage your child to sort the fruits onto the graph.

When the sorting is done, help your child read the graph. Look at the rows. Which one has the most? Which one has the least? Are there any fruits that have the same number?

Talk about the colors of the fruits after sorting too. Which fruits are the same color? What other fruits can you name that are the same colors as those on the graph?

Extension:

Let your child help you prepare a fruit salad. Give your child a dull butter knife. Let your child help clean an assortment of fruits. Use the dull butter knives to chop the fruits into bite-size pieces. Chill and eat.



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 sheets of 12 x 18 construction paper
narrow masking tape
assorted plastic fruits (or erasers)

- Directions:*
1. Use the masking tape to make the 12 x 18 sheet of construction paper into a graph.
 2. Laminate the graph. (If desired, in order to ease storage, cut the graph in half along the short way after laminating. Using wide, clear tape, "hinge" the graph back together as if you would a book. Now it will fold easily and fit into the envelope.)
 3. Laminate the parent direction page.
 4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Take-Home Activity

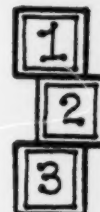
Sorting



Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

graph
assorted wild animals



How to play with your child:

Take the graph and assorted wild animals out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the animals shown at the bottom of the graph.

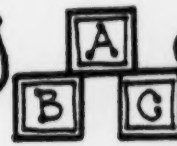
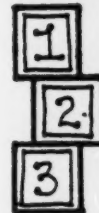
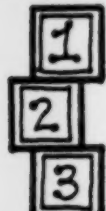
Explain that to make a graph, you sort according to the name at the bottom of the column. All the giraffes must go in the giraffe row, alligators in the alligator row, etc. Encourage your child to sort the animals onto the graph.

When the sorting is done, help your child read the graph. Look at the rows. Which one has the most? Which one has the least? Are there any animals that have the same number?

Talk about the animals on the graph. Are some animals bigger than others? Where would you see these animals?

Extension:

Read some good books about animals. Look through some National Geographic magazines at the library together and name some of the animals you see. Take a trip to the zoo!



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 sheets of 12 x 18 construction paper
narrow masking tape
assorted plastic animals (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Use the masking tape to make the 12 x 18 sheet of construction paper into a graph.
2. Laminate the graph. (If desired, in order to ease storage, cut the graph in half along the short way after laminating. Using wide, clear tape, "hinge" the graph back together as if you would a book. Now it will fold easily and fit into the envelope.)
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Take-Home Activity

Sorting

Sorting items is an important skill in developing an understanding of how things are the same and different. Children sort items by size, color, shape, and many other ways.

Materials in this packet:

graph
assorted vegetables

How to play with your child:

Take the graph and assorted vegetables out of the packet. Encourage your child to name the vegetables shown at the bottom of the graph.

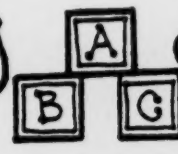
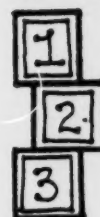
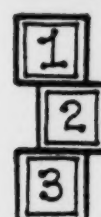
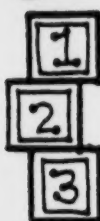
Explain that to make a graph, you sort according to the name at the bottom of the column. All the onions must go in the onion row, peas in the pea row, etc. Encourage your child to sort the vegetables onto the graph.

When the sorting is done, help your child read the graph. Look at the rows. Which one has the most? Which one has the least? Are there any vegetables that have the same number?

Talk about the colors of the vegetables after sorting too. Which vegetables are the same color? What other vegetables can you name that are the same colors as those on the graph?

Extension:

Let your child help you prepare some raw vegetables for a snack. Give your child a dull butter knife. Let your child help clean some carrots and celery. Use the dull butter knives to chop the carrots into 2"-3" lengths. Enjoy ice cold! Have fun shelling fresh peas to cook or eat raw in a salad too. Your child will develop good finger control by helping to shell peas.



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 sheets of 12 x 18 construction paper
narrow masking tape
assorted plastic vegetables (or erasers)

Directions:

1. Use the masking tape to make the 12 x 18 sheet of construction paper into a graph.
2. Laminate the graph. (If desired, in order to ease storage, cut the graph in half along the short way after laminating. Using wide, clear tape, "hinge" the graph back together as if you would a book. Now it will fold easily and fit into the envelope.)
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



Take-Home Activity

Go-Togethers

Knowing how the world works is an important part of an early education. One of the biggest skills a preschoolers can develop before formal schooling is an understanding of how things go together. Once your child begins to understand that there is a pattern to his world, it is easier to learn all about it.

Materials in this packet:

- 10 birds with pictures
- 10 nests with pictures

How to play with your child:

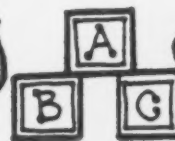
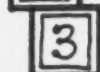
Take the birds and nests out of the packet. Line up the nests so the pictures show and stack the birds in a pile. Tell your child that birds belong in nests in the spring. There are pictures on the birds and nests that belong together. Name the pictures on the nests and on the birds. Encourage your child to choose a bird and match it to the nest with the picture the bird's picture goes with. Continue playing until all the birds and nests have been matched.

As your child matches the birds and nests, ask your child why the pictures go together. It is important to think about why things go together, not just to match them.

(Answers: lock/key shovel/pail toothpaste/toothbrush leaf/tree clothespin/clothesline hammer/nail screwdriver/screw sock/shoe hand/mitten flower/plant)

Extension:

Talk about go-togethers at home too. Eating utensils go with plates, feet go with shoes and socks, combs and brushes go with hair, etc. Be sure you always ask why these things go together too!

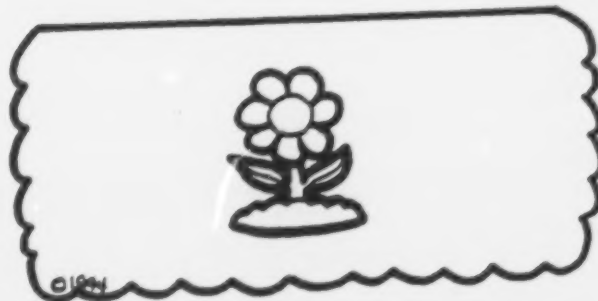
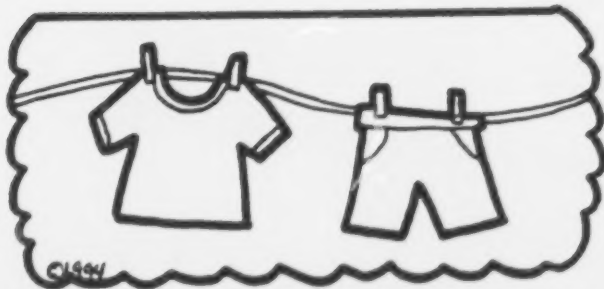
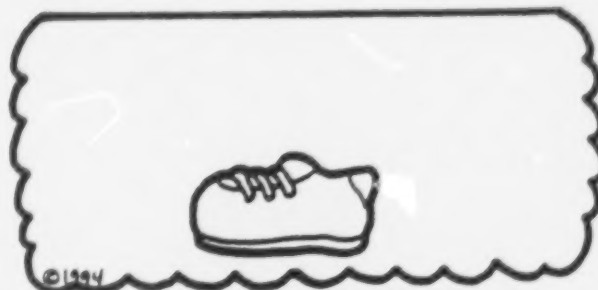
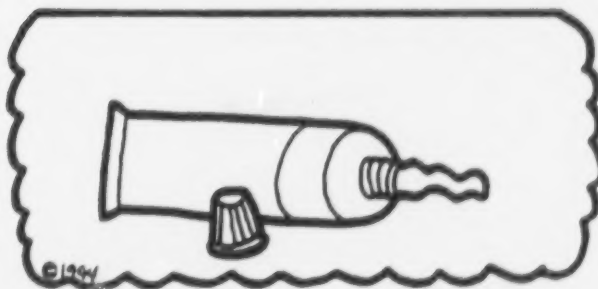
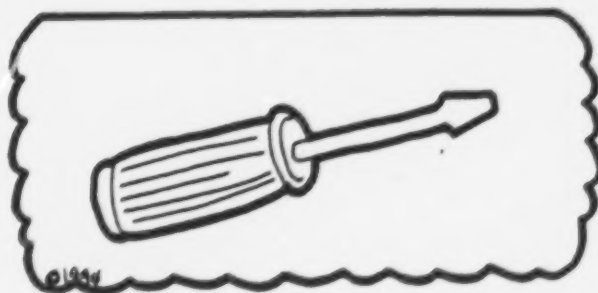
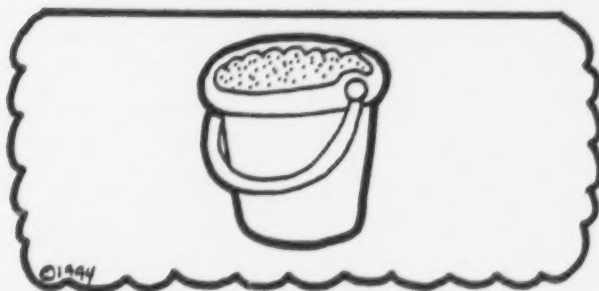
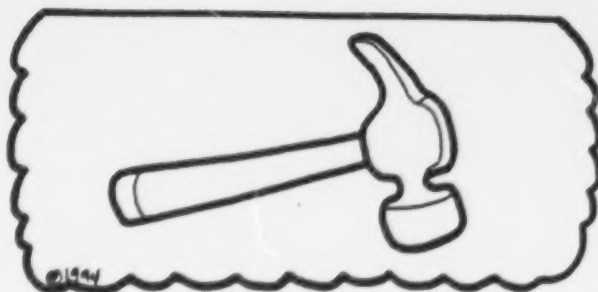


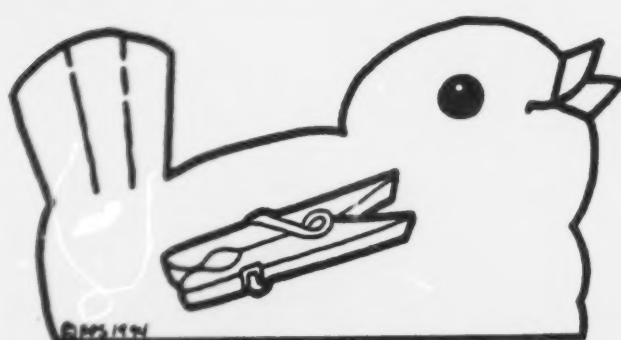
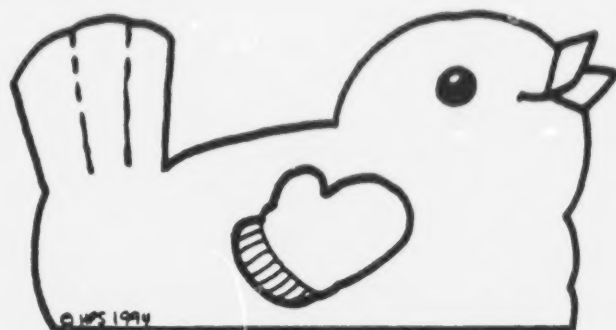
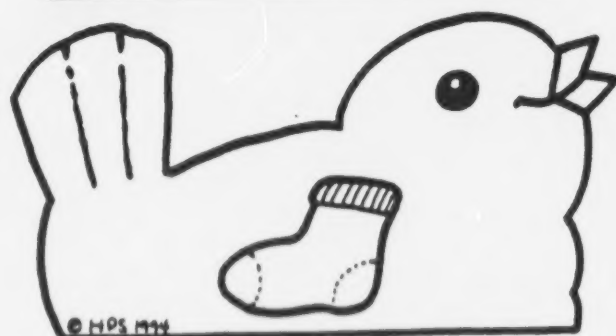
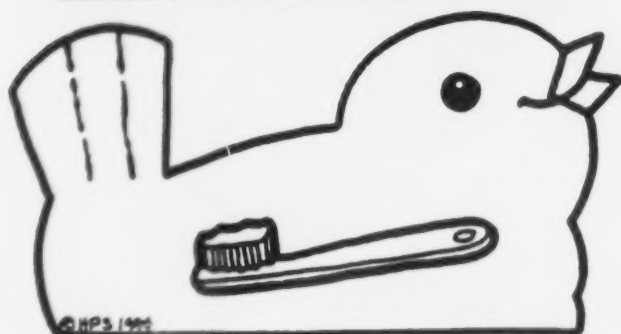
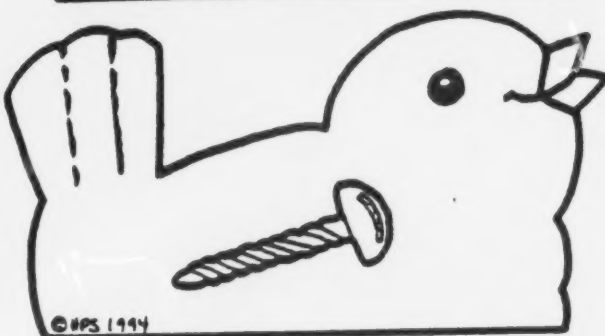
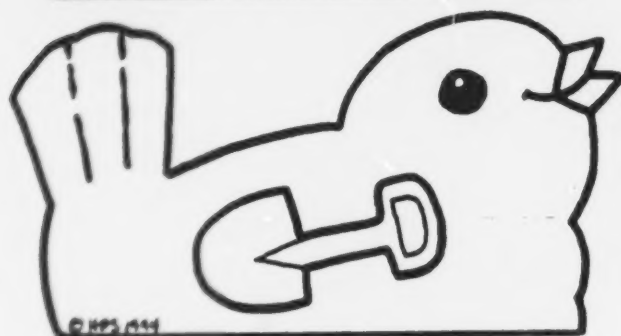
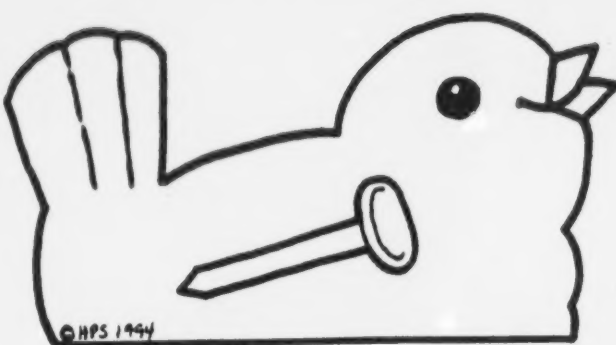
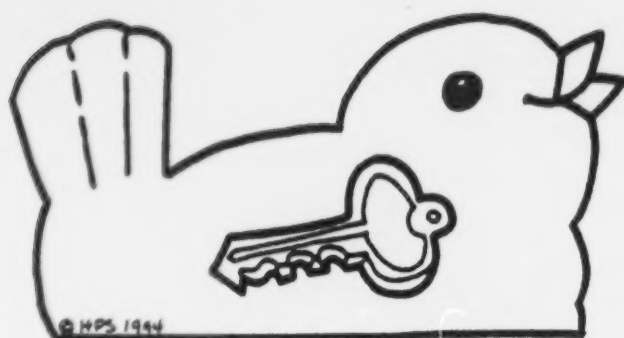
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the bird page
1 copy of the nest page

Directions:

1. Laminate both pages.
2. Cut out the nests.
3. Cut out the birds.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.







Take-Home Activity

Go-Togethers

Knowing how the world works is an important part of an early education. One of the biggest skills preschoolers can develop before formal schooling is an understanding of how things go together. Once your child begins to understand that there is a pattern to his world, it is easier to learn all about it.

Materials in this packet:

- 10 flowers with pictures
- 10 flower pots with pictures

How to play with your child:

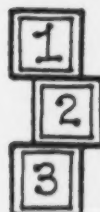
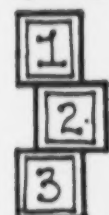
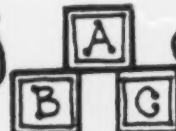
Take the flowers and flower pots out of the packet. Line up the flower pots so the pictures show and stack the flowers in a pile. Tell your child that flowers go with flower pots. There are pictures on the flowers and flower pots that belong together. Name the pictures on the flowers and flower pots. Encourage your child to choose a flower and match it to the flower pot with the picture the flower's picture goes with. Continue playing until all the flowers and flower pots have been matched.

As your child matches the flowers and flower pots, ask your child why the pictures go together. It is important to think about why things go together, not just to match them.

(Answers: child/hat bat/ball dust brush/dust pan
letter/stamp paintbrush/paint pencil/paper bird/nest
fish/fishbowl shoe box/box lid saw/log)

Extension:

Play a go together game as you drive in the car. Name something (sock) and let your child name something that goes with it (shoe or foot). Let your child start the game by naming something and you name the go-together pair too!

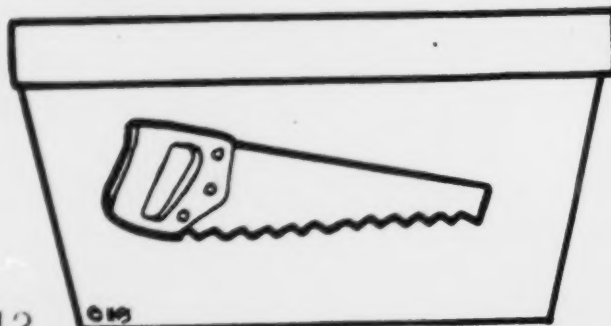
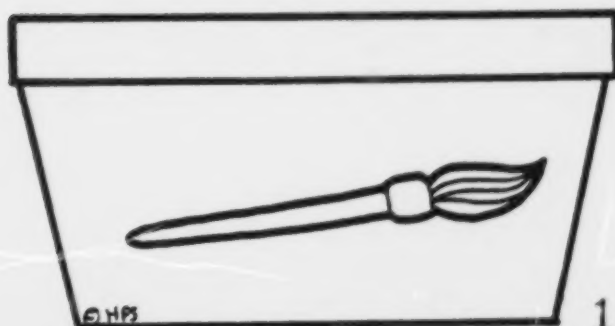
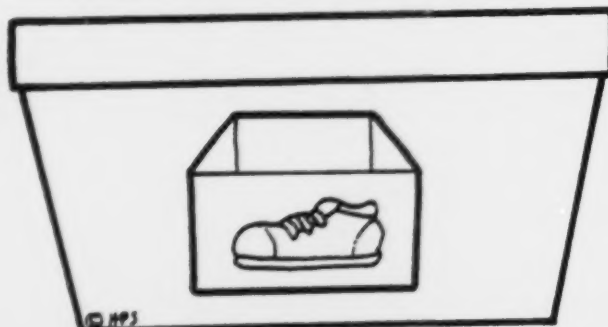
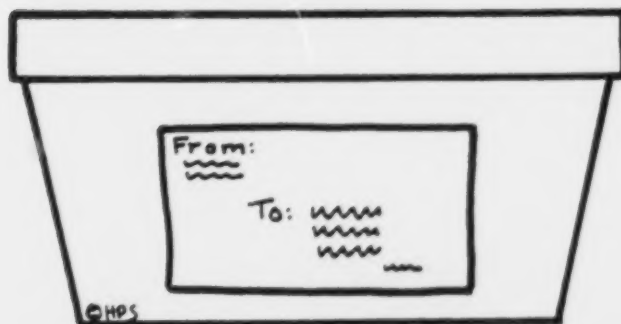
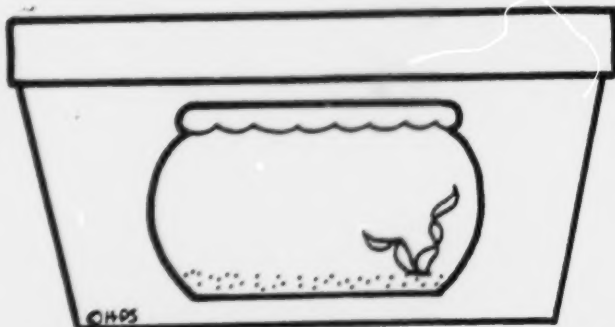
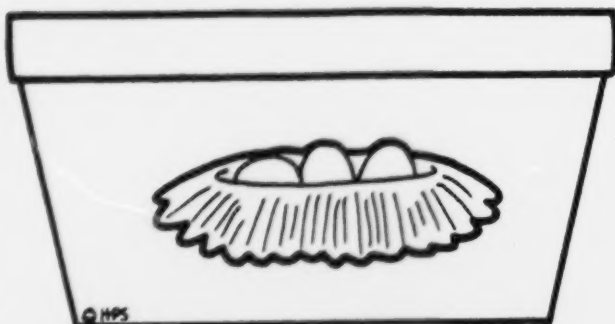
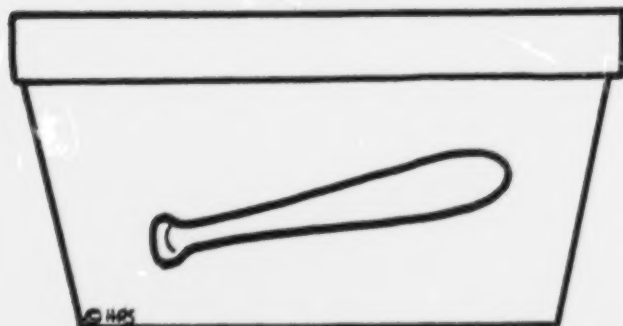
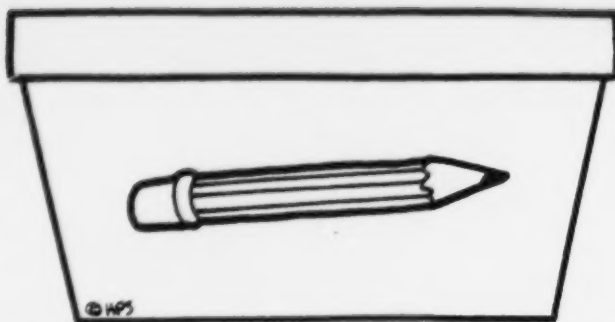
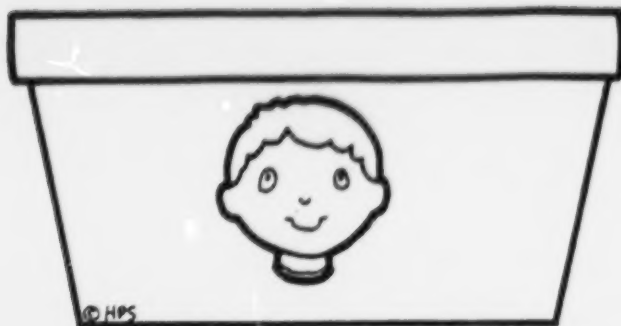


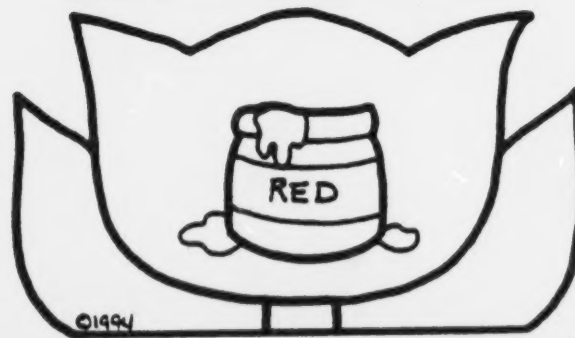
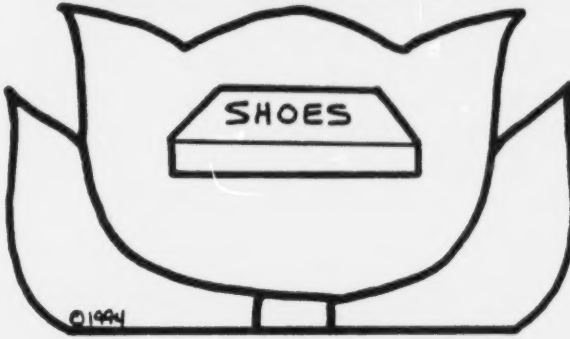
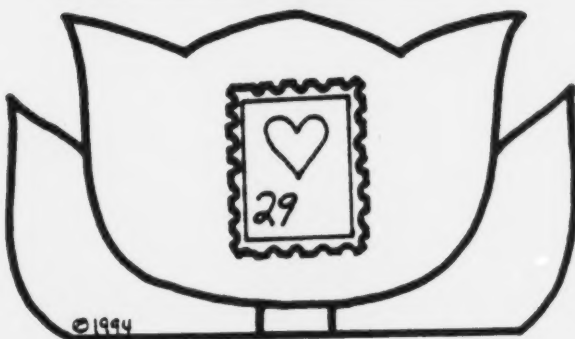
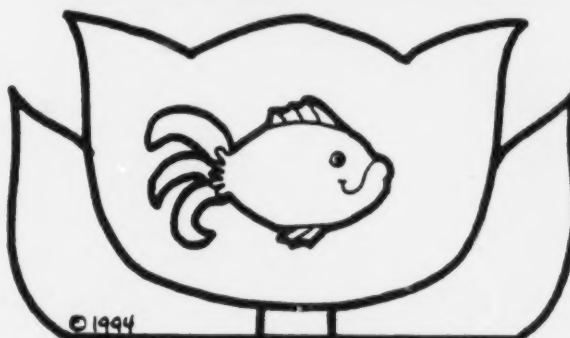
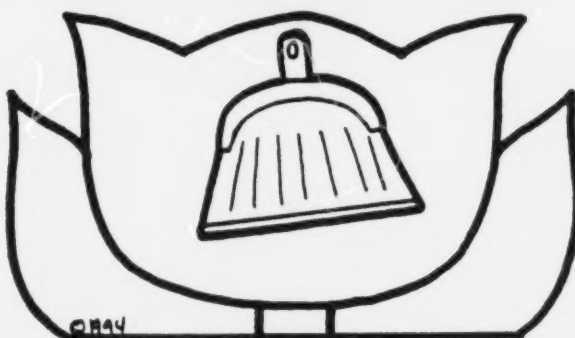
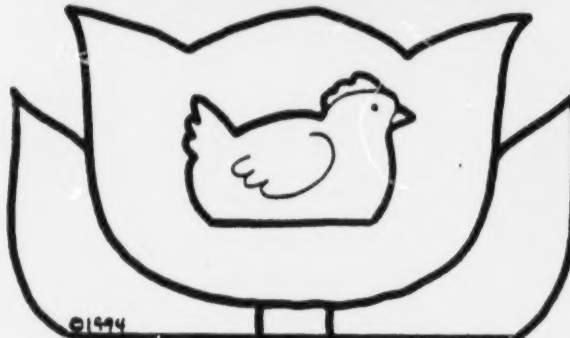
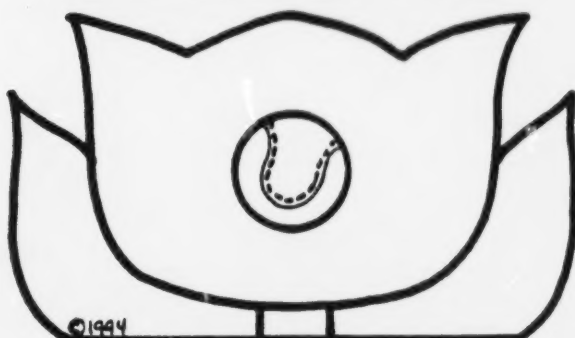
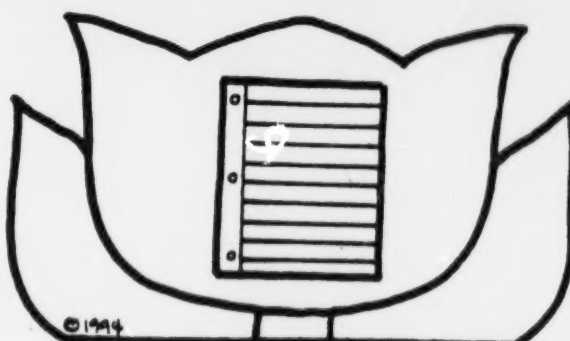
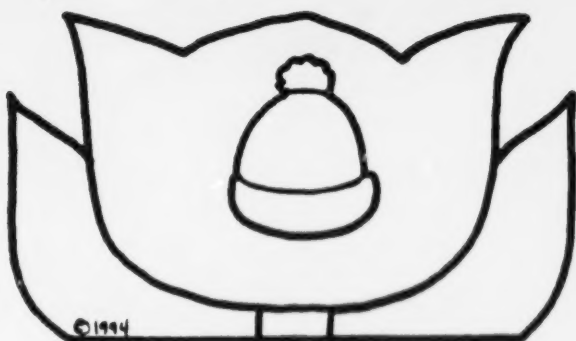
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the flower page
1 copy of the flower pot page

Directions:

1. Laminate both pages.
2. Cut out the flowers.
3. Cut out the flower pots.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.







Take-Home Activity

Sequencing



Sequencing is an important skill for young children. When a child sequences, he is putting events or a story in order. The child will have to think about what happens first, next, and last. Understanding that there is an order to a story is very important in developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 3 part story about getting dressed
- 3 part story about a plant growing
- 3 part story about washing dishes

How to play with your child:

Take the story cards out of the packet and let your child sort the cards by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the cards as you sort.

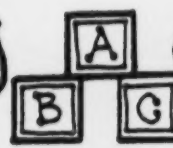
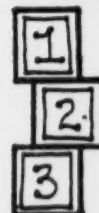
Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. (Each color tells one complete story.) Look at the story cards, and ask your child to tell you what he sees going on in the pictures.

After your child has talked about the pictures, ask him if there is a special order to tell a story using the pictures. Give hints by asking what would you do first? Then what could you do? What would come last?

When the pictures are in order, encourage your child to tell you a story in order about the pictures!

Extension:

Talk about what you do first, second, next, and last with many things you do with your child at home (getting dressed, undressed, brushing teeth, going to bed, setting the table). Using what your child learns with this packet everyday makes the learning last forever!



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the sequence story cards,
each on a different color paper: getting
dressed, growing plant, washing dishes

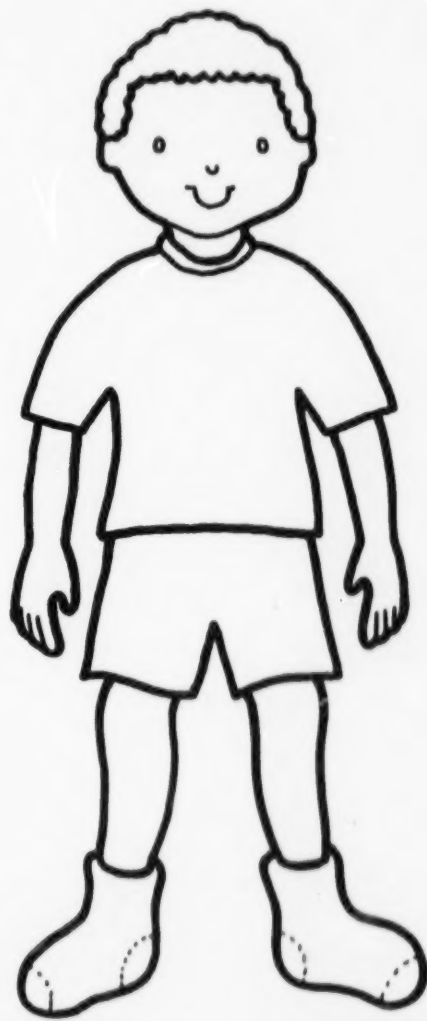
Directions:

1. Laminate the story cards.
2. Cut apart the story cards.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

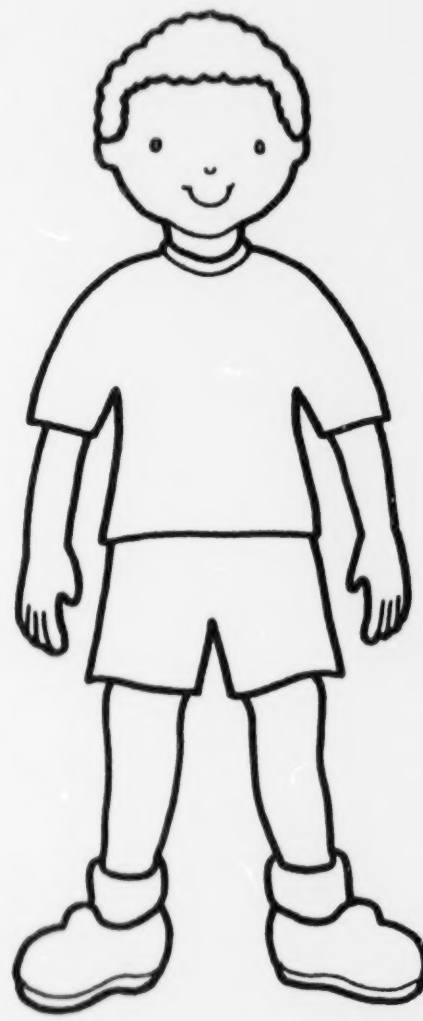


147

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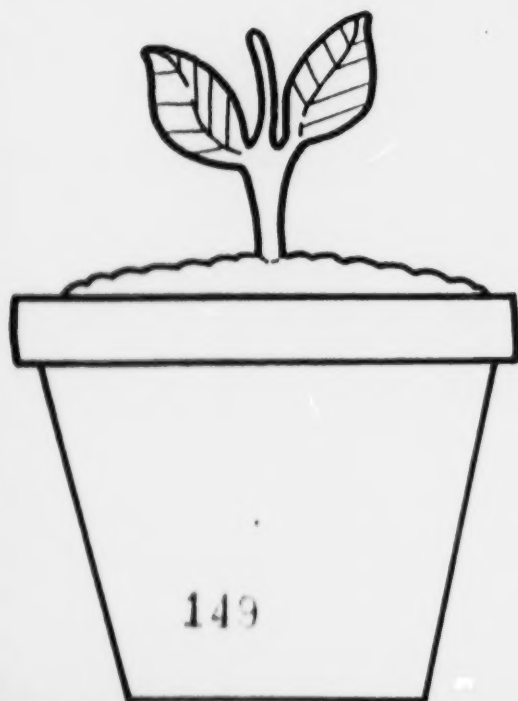


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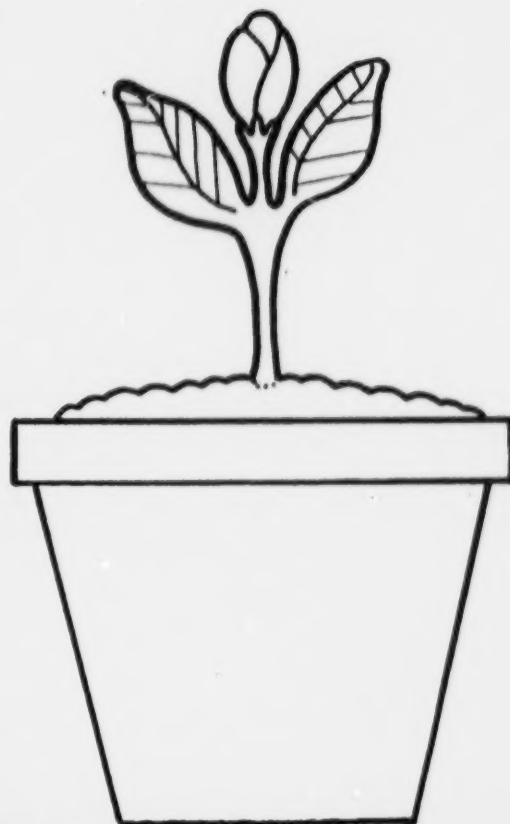


148

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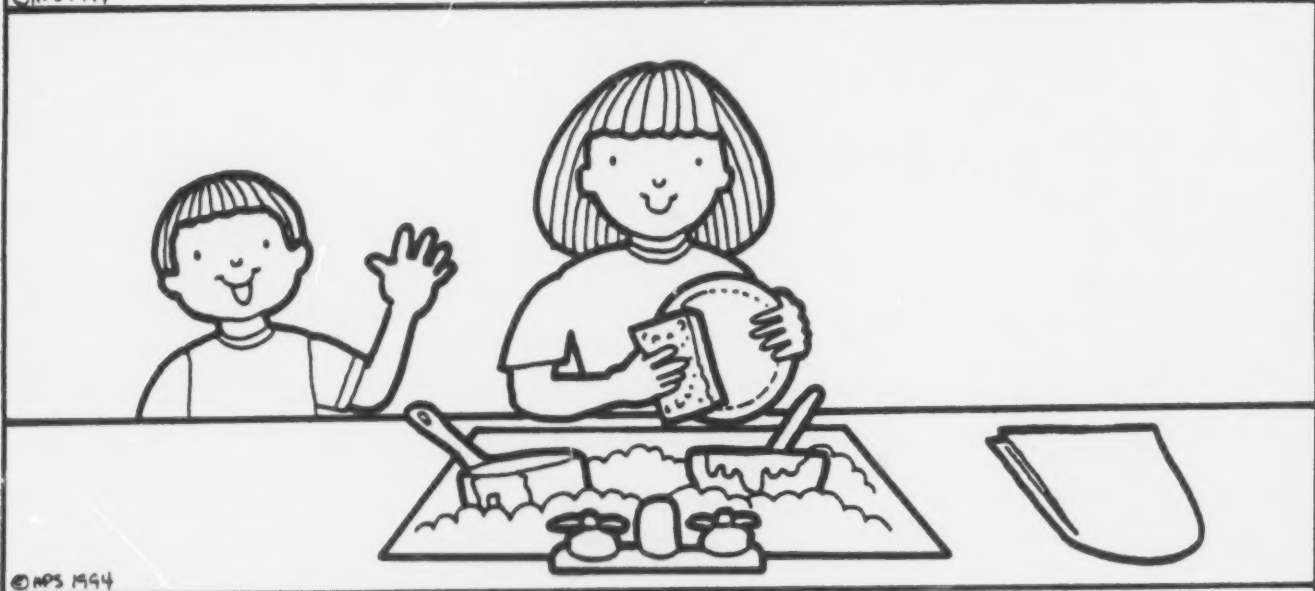
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Take-Home Activity

Sequencing

Sequencing is an important skill for young children. When a child sequences, he is putting events or a story in order. The child will have to think about what happens first, next, and last. Understanding that there is an order to a story is very important in developing reading skills.

Materials in this packet:

- 4 part story about making a sandwich
- 4 part story about building with blocks
- 4 part story about blowing up a balloon

How to play with your child:

Take the story cards out of the packet and let your child sort the cards by color. Encourage your child to name the colors of the cards as you sort.

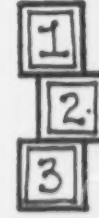
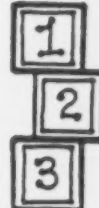
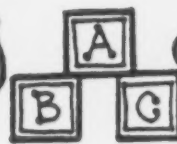
Now that the cards are sorted, work with one color set at a time. (Each color tells one complete story.) Look at the story cards, and ask your child to tell you what he sees going on in the pictures.

After your child has talked about the pictures, ask him if there is a special order to tell a story using the pictures. Give hints by asking what would you do first? Then what could you do? What would come last?

When the pictures are in order, encourage your child to tell you a story in order about the pictures!

Extension:

Talk about what your child's favorite sandwich is and let your child help make one next time. Talk about what kind of buildings your child builds with blocks at school. Encourage him to describe what he builds with blocks. Talk about what happens when you blow up a balloon too much.



To make the game:

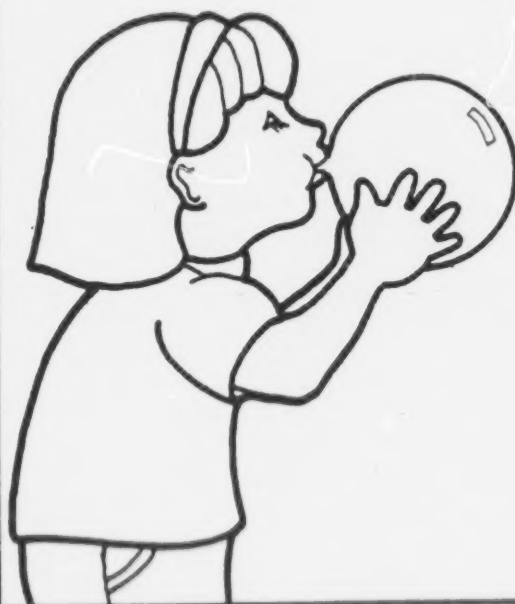
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the sequence story cards,
each on a different color paper: making
a sandwich, building with blocks, blowing
up a balloon

Directions:

1. Laminate the story cards.
2. Cut apart the story cards.
3. Laminate the parent direction page.
4. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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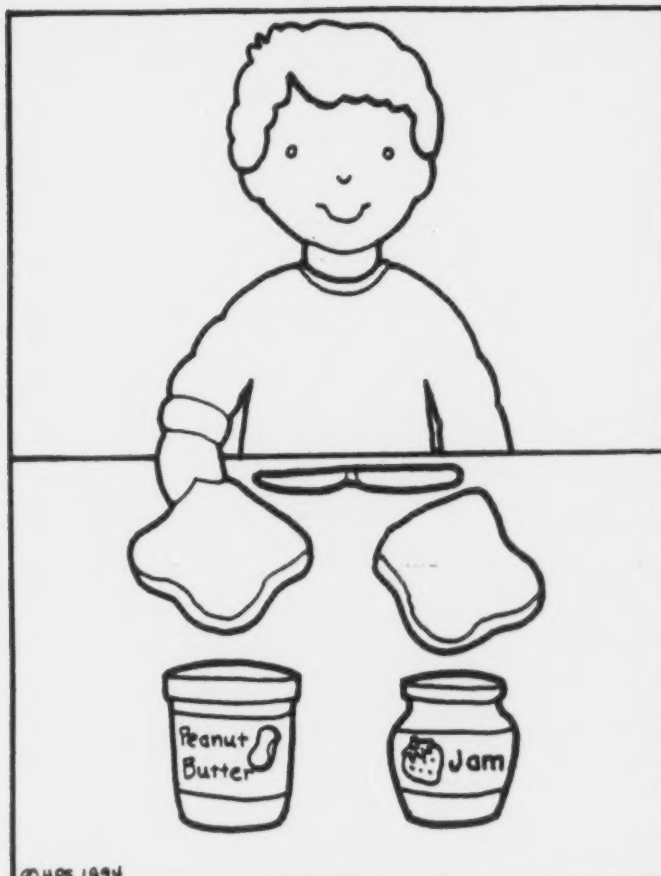
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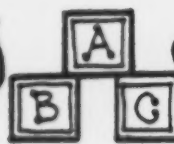
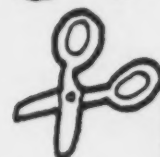
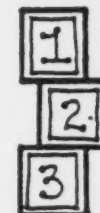
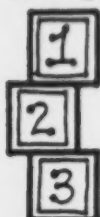
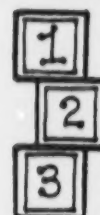
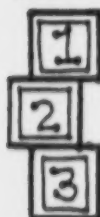


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Take-Home Activity

Goldilocks and the Three Bears



Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials in this packet:

Goldilocks and the Three Bears
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

Read the book, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Jan Brett to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces.

For an extra challenge, sort the story telling pieces by size. Read Goldilocks again!

Extension:

There are many versions of *The Three Bears*. Ask your librarian for several different three bears stories to read. Compare the stories. Are all the stories the same, or are they each a little different? Which one does your child like best? Why?

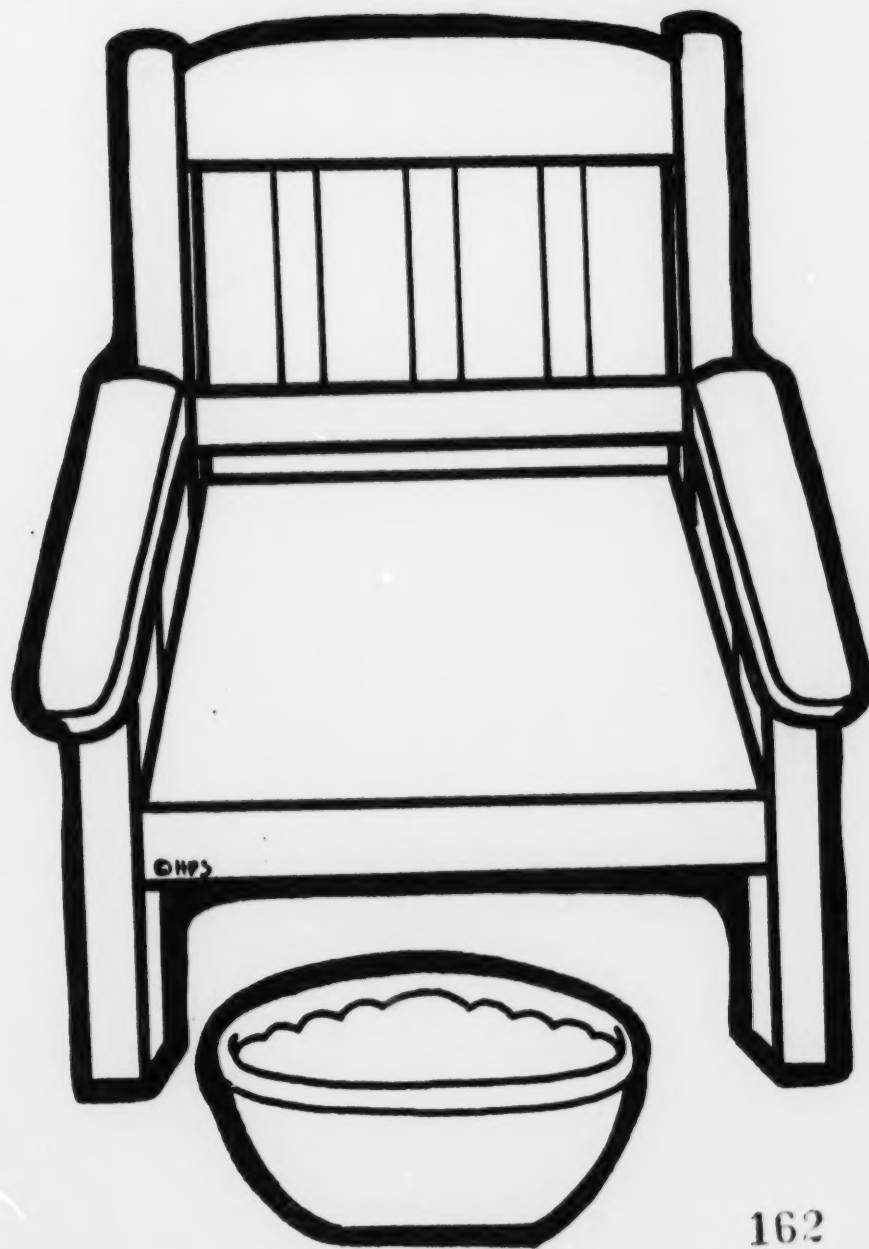
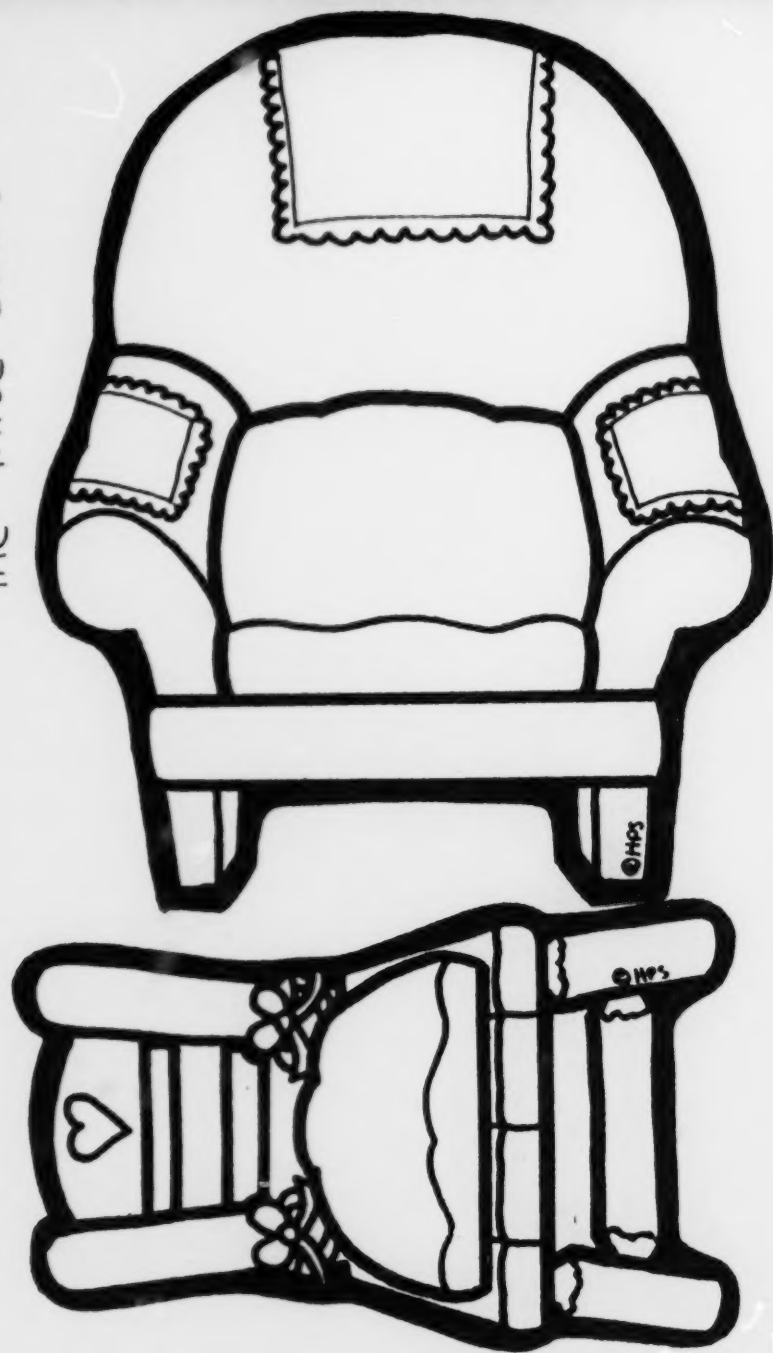
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*

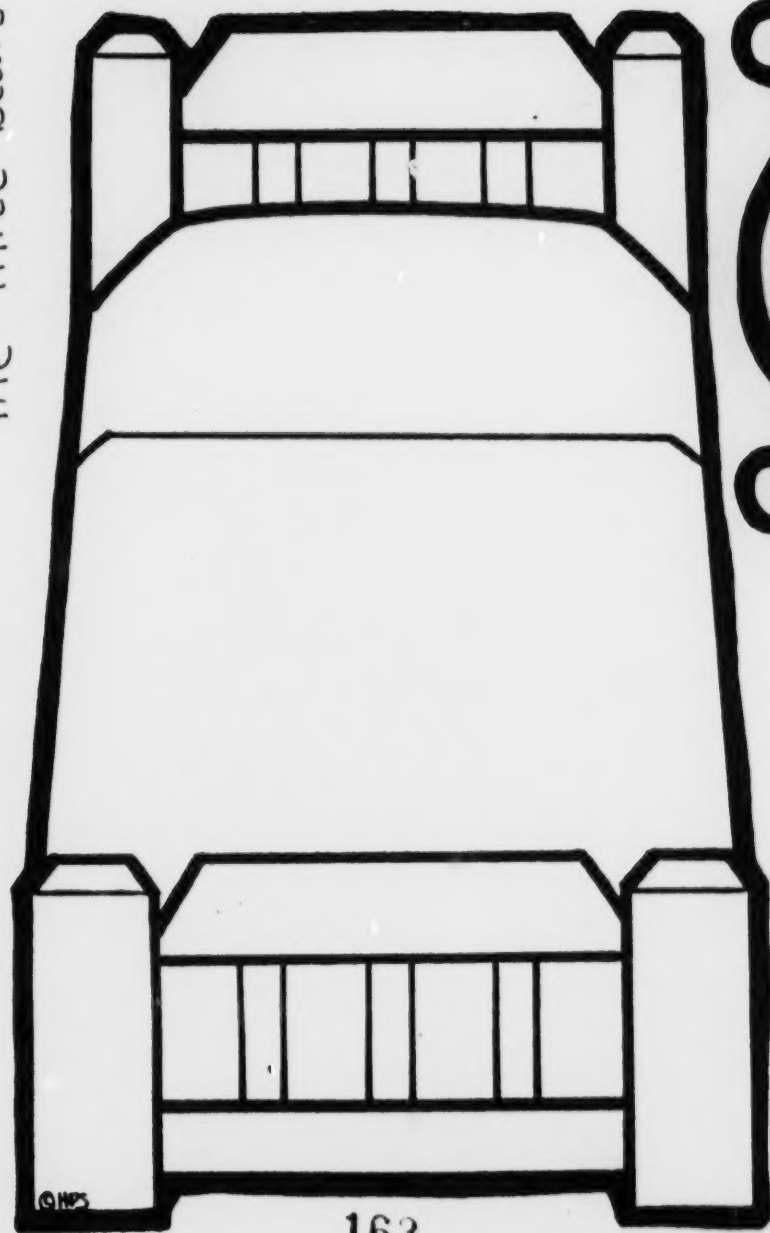
Directions:

1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

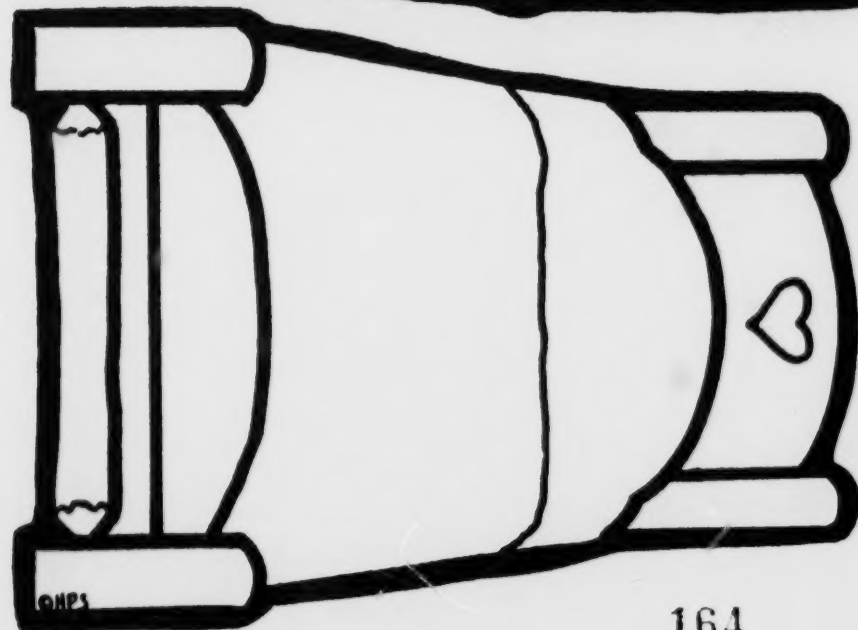




The Three Bears



163



164



Take-Home Activity

The Napping House



Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials in this packet:

The Napping House
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

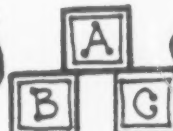
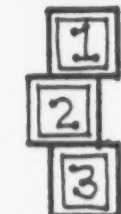
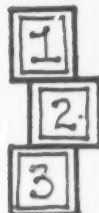
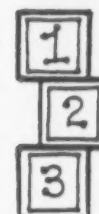
Read the book, *The Napping House* to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces. Talk about what came first, second, third, and so on in the story. See if your child can stack up the story telling pieces in the same order as in the story.

Read *The Napping House* again!

Extension:

Ask your librarian for books about animals and how they sleep. Read some of your favorite books about grandparents too.



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *The Napping House*

Directions:

1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

The Napping House



The
Napping
House



The Napping House





Take-Home Activity

The Turnip

Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials in this packet:

The Turnip
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

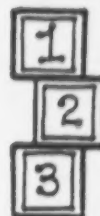
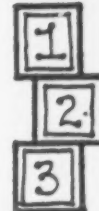
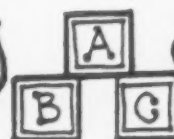
Read the book, *The Turnip* by Pierr Morgan to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces. Talk about why the turnip was so hard to pull up. Why did the farmer keep asking for help to pull up the turnip? See if your child can retell the story in order.

Read *The Turnip* again!

Extension:

There are many versions of *The Turnip*. Ask your librarian for several different turnip stories to read. Compare the stories. Are all the stories the same, or are they each a little different? Which one does your child like best? Why? Encourage your child to tell his own story of a carrot he planted that got too big. What would he do to pull it up?



To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *The Turnip*

Directions:

1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

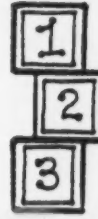
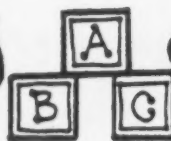
The Enormous Turnip





The Enormous Turnip





Take-Home Activity

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials in this packet:

The Three Billy Goats Gruff
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

Read the book, *The Three Billy Goats* to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces.

For an extra challenge, use the bridge and troll story telling pieces only to talk about positions. In the story, the troll lives **under** the bridge. Have fun with other positions with your child. Ask him to put the troll **on top** of the bridge, **next to** the bridge, etc. Try many different positions.

Read *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* again!

Extension:

There are many stories with three characters for young children (The Three Bears, The Three Pigs, The Three Billy Goats). Ask your librarian to help choose several. Read them all to your child! Which one does your child like best? Why?

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*

Directions:

1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff



178

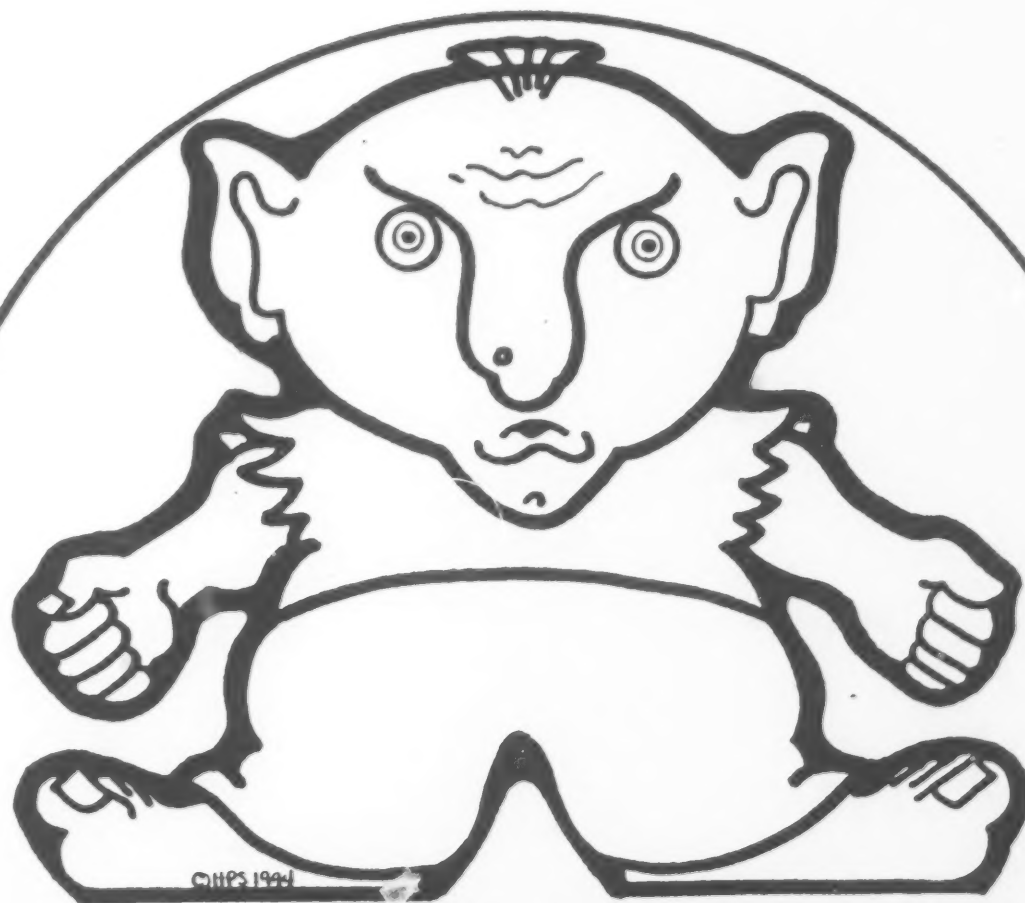


179

The Three Billy Goats Gruff



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181

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182

The Three Billy Goats Gruff



Take-Home Activity

Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?

Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials In this packet:

Brown Bear, Brown Bear
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

Read the book, *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

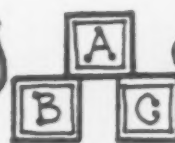
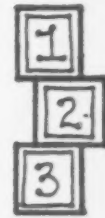
After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces.

Talk about the colors of the animals in the story. Try retelling the story in your own way by mixing up the characters. Maybe your story is called, "Yellow duck, yellow duck." Have fun!

Read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* again!

Extension:

Bill Martin Jr. has many excellent books for young children. Ask your librarian for help in choosing more books by Bill Martin Jr. Make sure you include *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?* in the books you select to read.



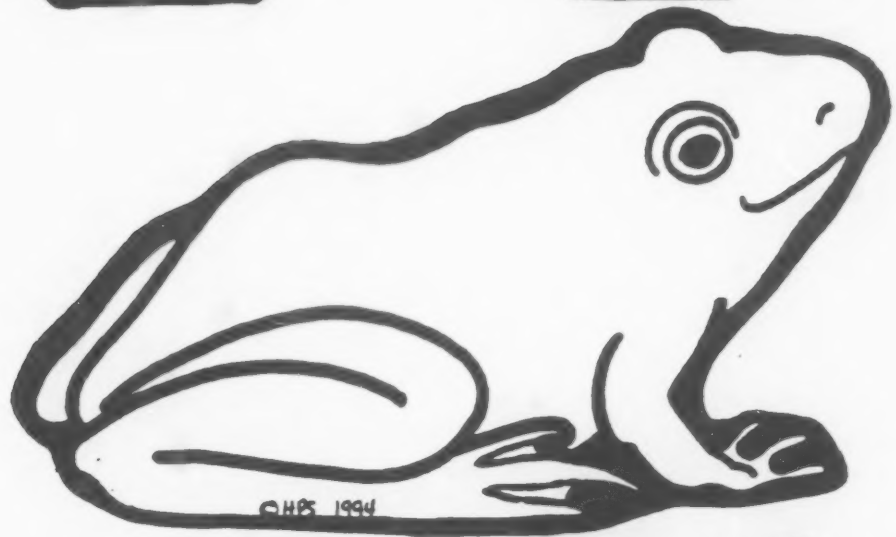
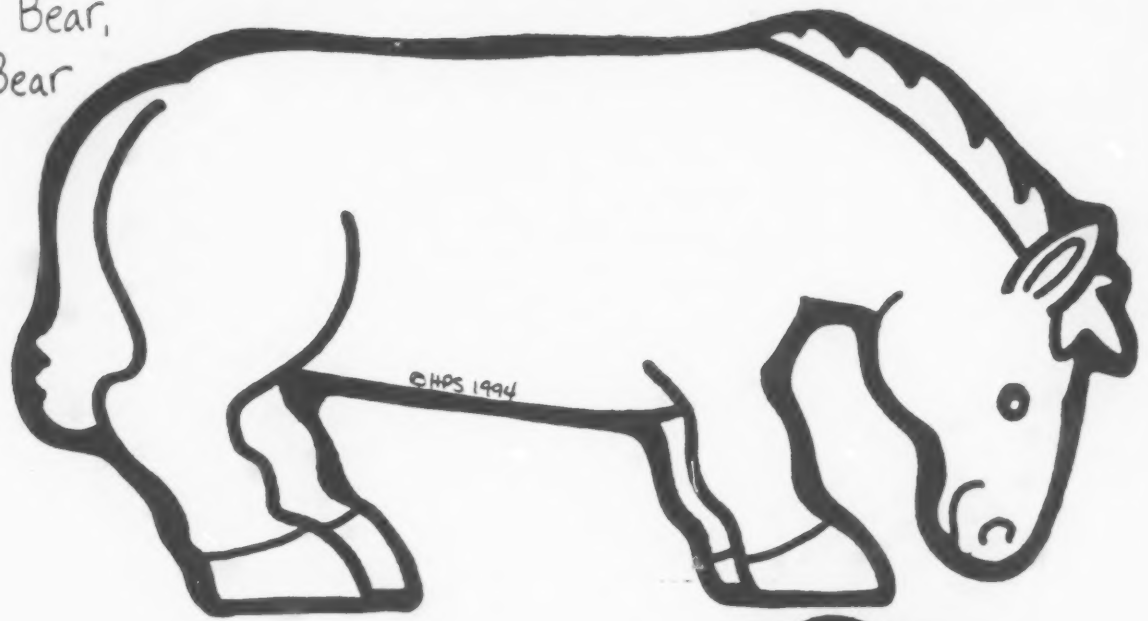
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*

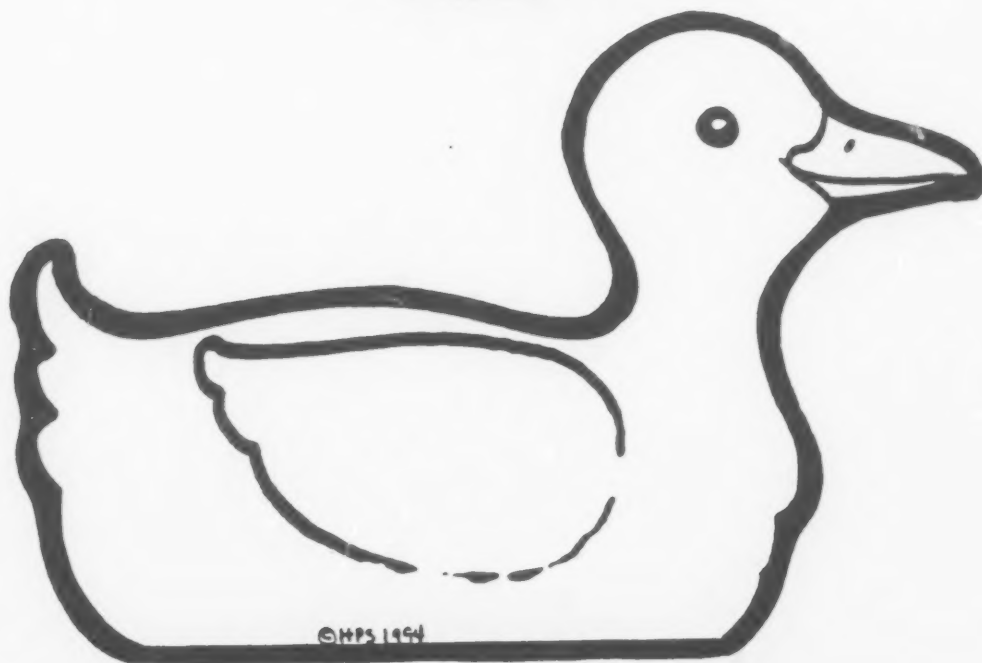
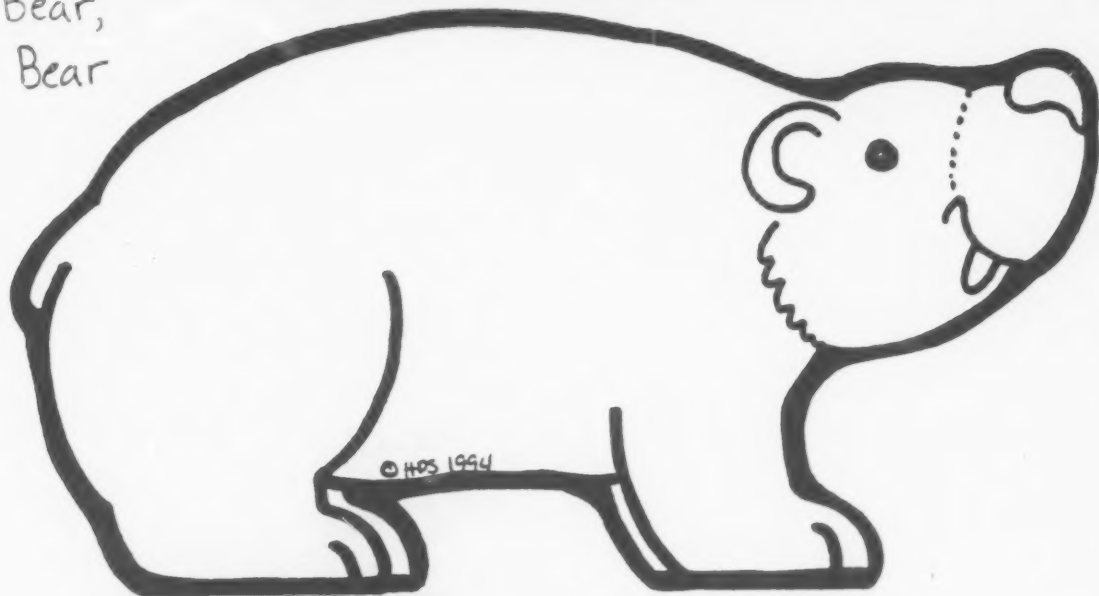
Directions:

1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
4. Laminate the parent direction page.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

Brown Bear,
Brown Bear



Brown Bear,
Brown Bear



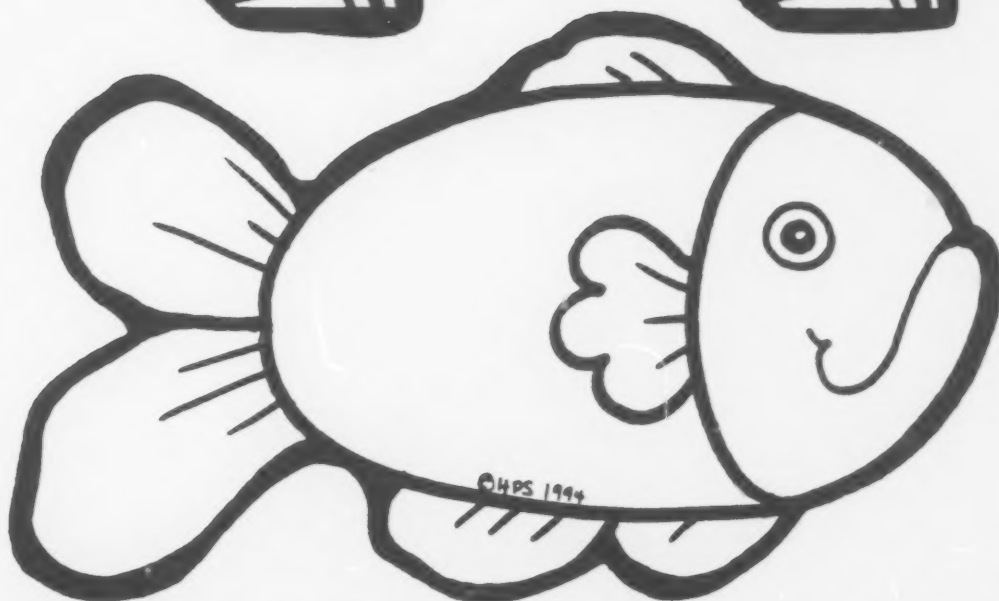
Brown Bear
Brown Bear



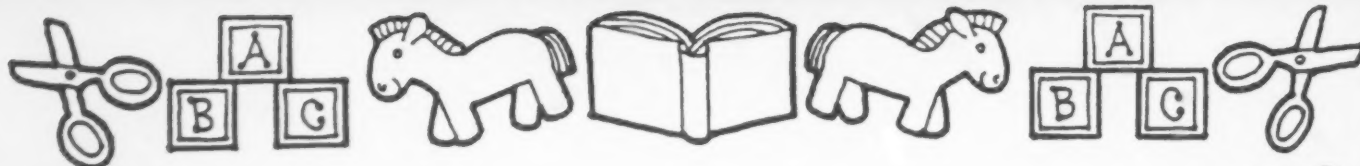
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Take-Home Activity

The Mitten



Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do to prepare your child for school. Reading favorite books over and over for children is one of the ways young children begin to learn how to read.

Materials in this packet:

The Mitten
Story telling pieces

How to play with your child:

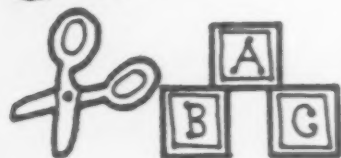
Read the book, *The Mitten* by Jan Brett to your child. If your child is familiar with the story, let him help you "read." Answer questions your child has as you read. Ask your child what he thinks will happen next at key points in the story.

After you have read the story, let your child use the story telling pieces to recreate the story. Let him retell the story to you using the story telling pieces. See if your child can retell the story in the same order in the book.

Read *The Mitten* again!

Extension:

There are many books by Jan Brett. The illustrations in each are beautiful! Ask your local librarian for help in choosing some of Jan Brett's books. Which one does your child like best? Why?



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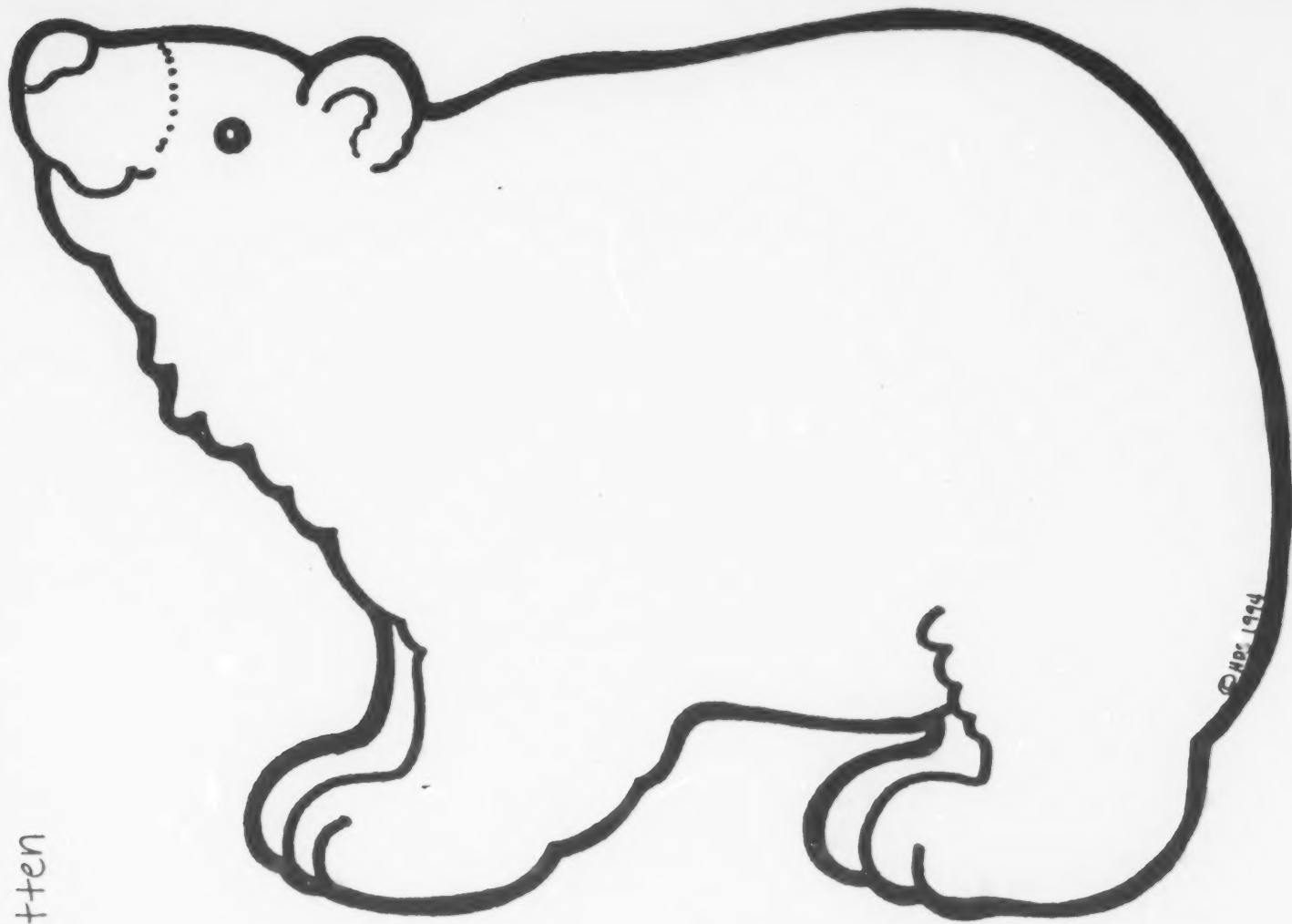
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of each of the story telling piece pages
1 copy of *The Mitten*

- Directions:*
1. Color and laminate the story telling pieces.
 2. Laminate the story telling pieces.
 3. Cut out the story telling pieces.
 4. Laminate the parent direction page.
 5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

The Mitten

100



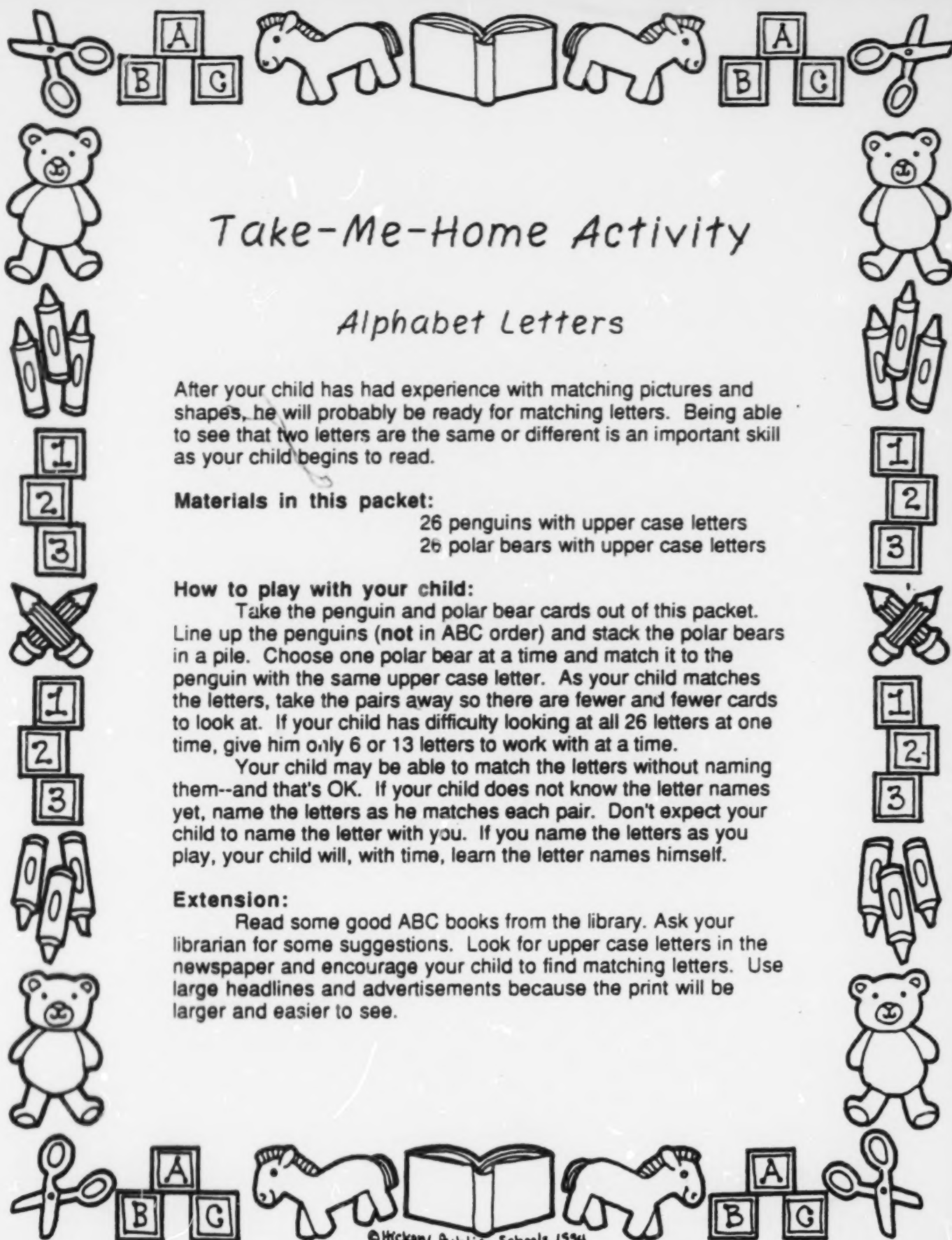
191

The Mitten



The Mitten





Take-Home Activity

Alphabet Letters

After your child has had experience with matching pictures and shapes, he will probably be ready for matching letters. Being able to see that two letters are the same or different is an important skill as your child begins to read.

Materials in this packet:

- 26 penguins with upper case letters
- 26 polar bears with upper case letters

How to play with your child:

Take the penguin and polar bear cards out of this packet. Line up the penguins (not in ABC order) and stack the polar bears in a pile. Choose one polar bear at a time and match it to the penguin with the same upper case letter. As your child matches the letters, take the pairs away so there are fewer and fewer cards to look at. If your child has difficulty looking at all 26 letters at one time, give him only 6 or 13 letters to work with at a time.

Your child may be able to match the letters without naming them--and that's OK. If your child does not know the letter names yet, name the letters as he matches each pair. Don't expect your child to name the letter with you. If you name the letters as you play, your child will, with time, learn the letter names himself.

Extension:

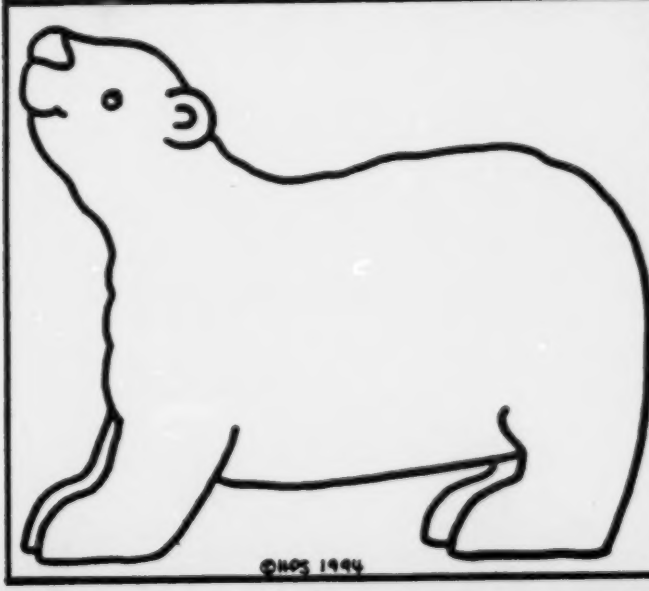
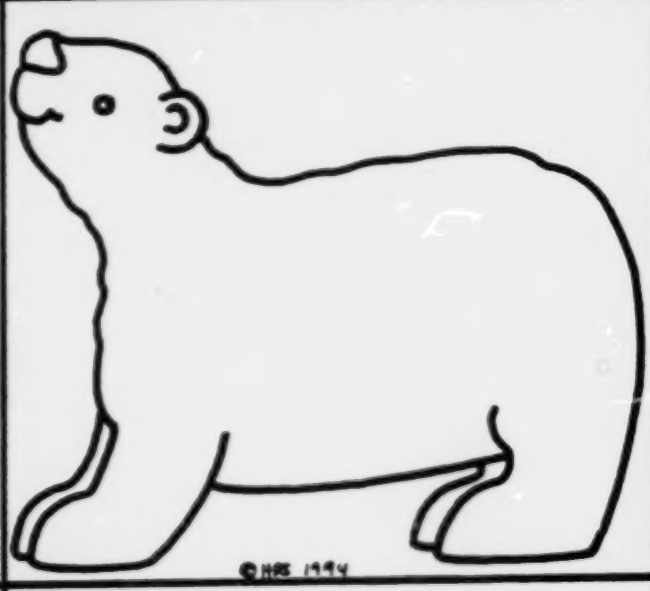
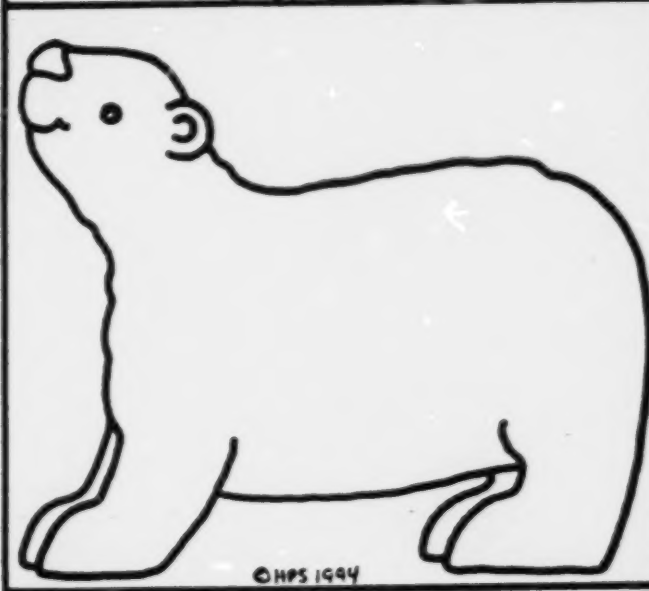
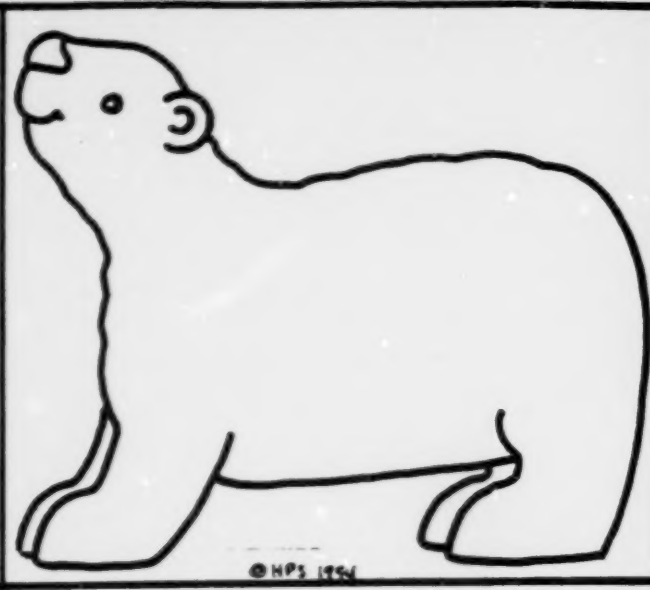
Read some good ABC books from the library. Ask your librarian for some suggestions. Look for upper case letters in the newspaper and encourage your child to find matching letters. Use large headlines and advertisements because the print will be larger and easier to see.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
5 copies of the polar bear page
5 copies of the penguin page

Directions:

1. Write the upper case letters on the bears.
2. Write the lower case letters on the penguins.
3. Laminate and cut the cards apart.
4. Laminate the parent direction sheet.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





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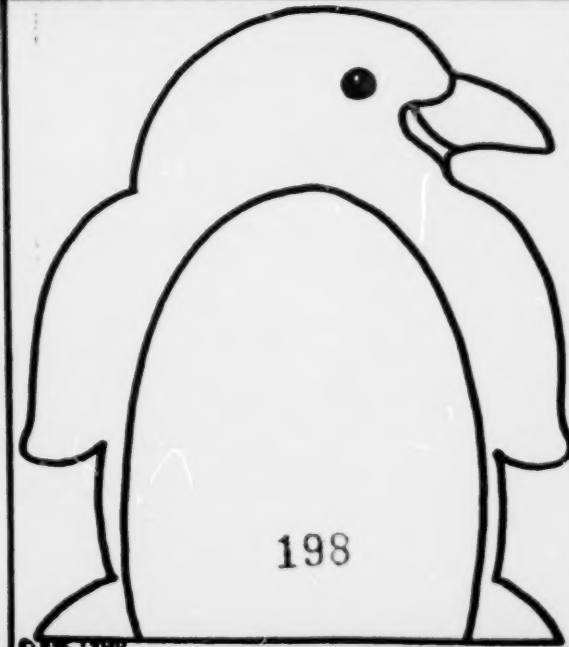
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Take-Home Activity

Alphabet Letters

After your child has had experience with matching pictures and shapes, he will probably be ready for matching letters. Being able to see that two letters are the same or different is an important skill as your child begins to read. Matching upper and lower case letters is a more advanced letter skill.

Materials in this packet:

- 26 birds with upper case letters
- 26 turtles with lower case letters

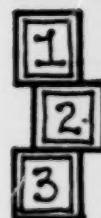
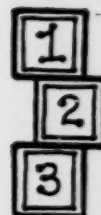
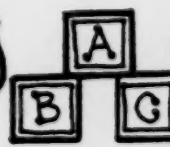
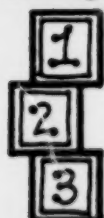
How to play with your child:

Take the bird and turtle cards out of this packet. Line up the birds (not in abc order) and stack the turtles in a pile. Choose one turtle at a time and match it to the penguin with the same upper case letter. As your child matches the letters, take the pairs away so there are fewer and fewer cards to look at. If your child has difficulty looking at all 26 letters at one time, give him only 6 or 13 letters to work with at a time.

Your child may be able to match the letters without naming them--and that's OK. If your child does not know the letter names yet, name the letters as he matches each pair. Don't expect your child to name the letter with you. If you name the letters as you play, your child will, with time, learn the letter names himself.

Extension:

Read some good ABC books from the library. Ask your librarian for some suggestions. Look for upper and lower case letters in the newspaper and signs as you travel around town. Begin writing your child's name with him. Always capitalize only the first letter of his name. Name the letters as you write. Look for the letters in your child's name everywhere you go.

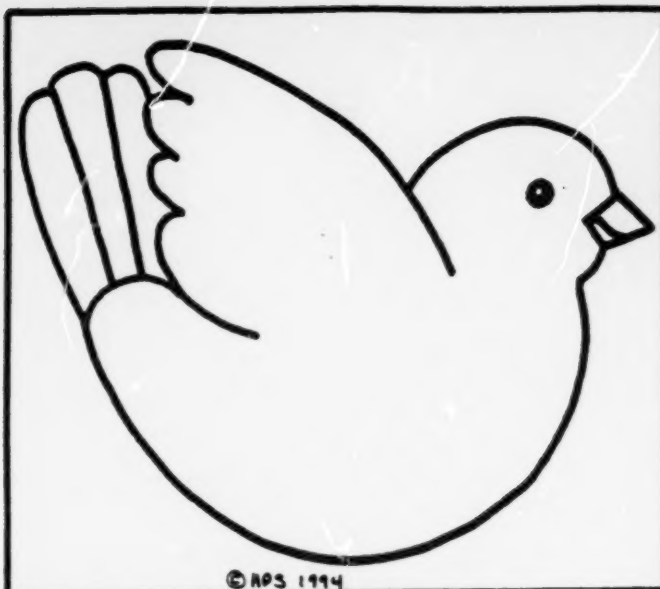


To make the game:

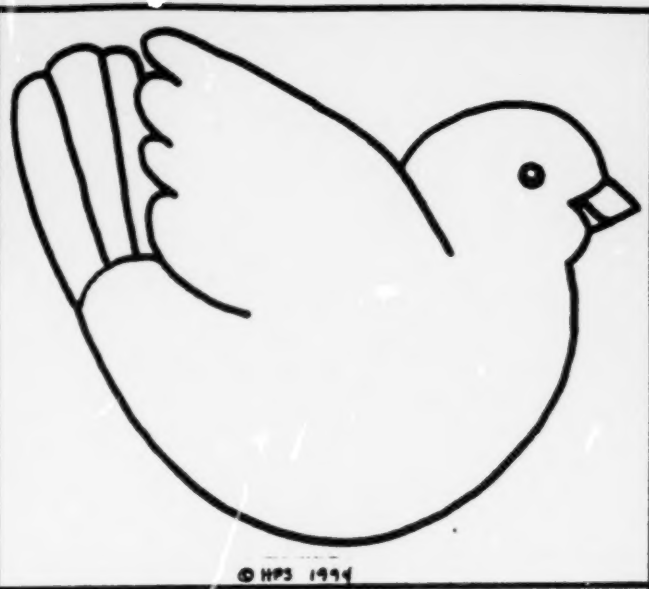
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
5 copies of the bird page
5 copies of the turtle page

Directions:

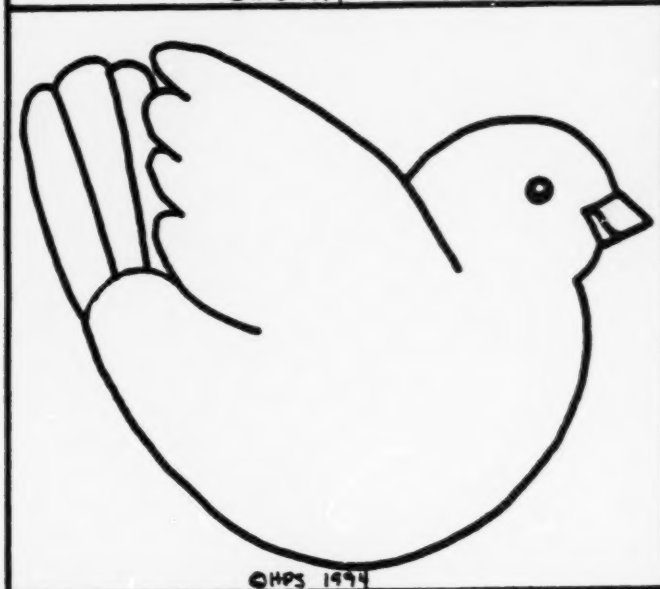
1. Write the upper case letters on the birds
2. Write the lower case letters on the turtles.
3. Laminate and cut the cards apart.
4. Laminate the parent direction sheet.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



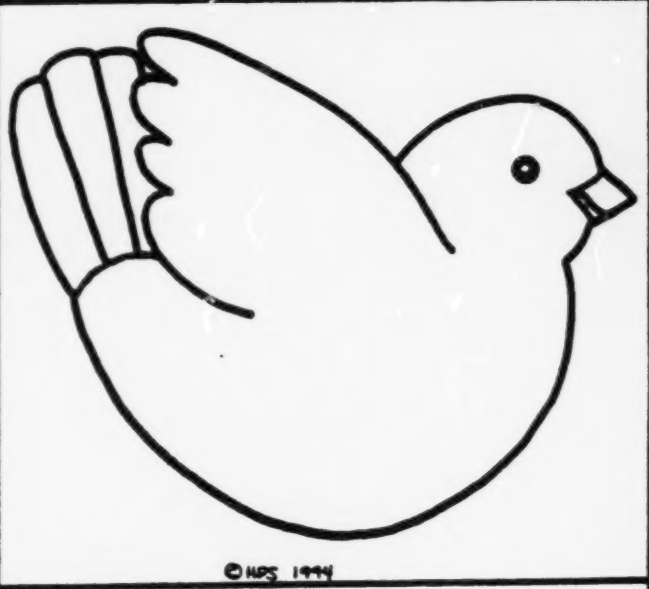
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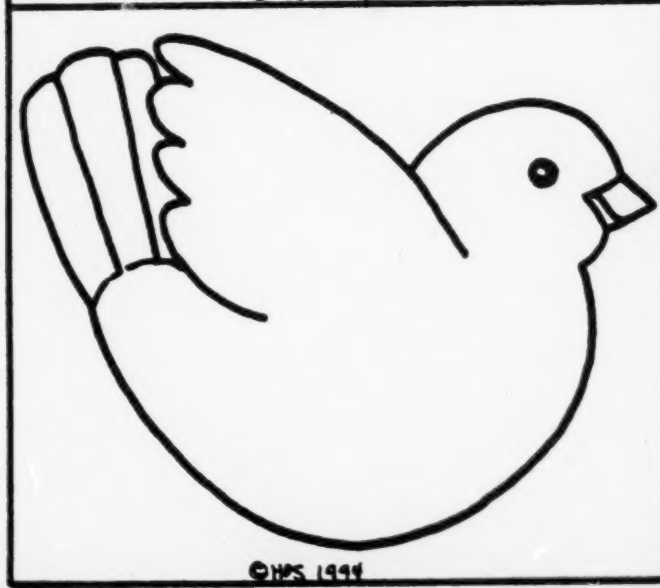
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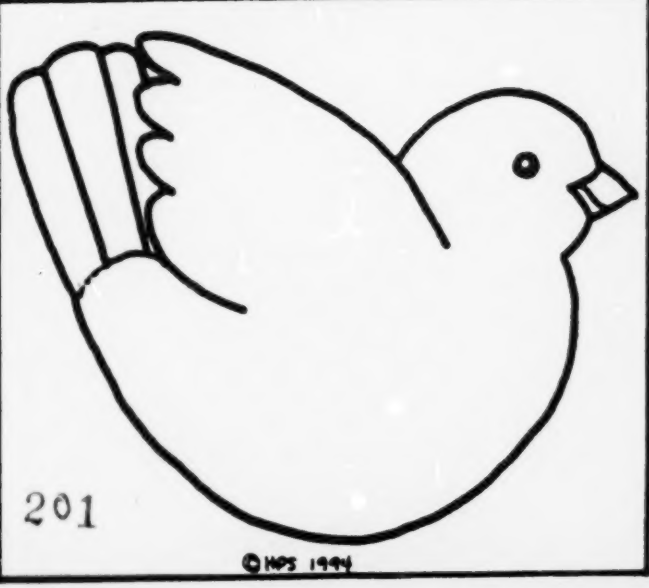
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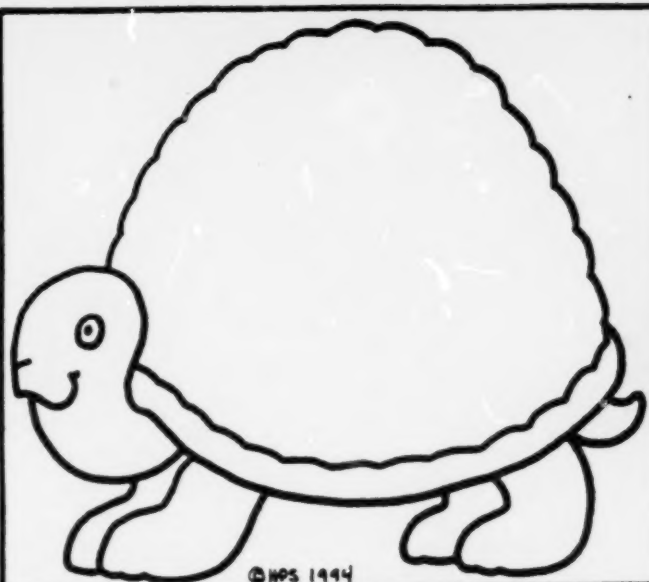
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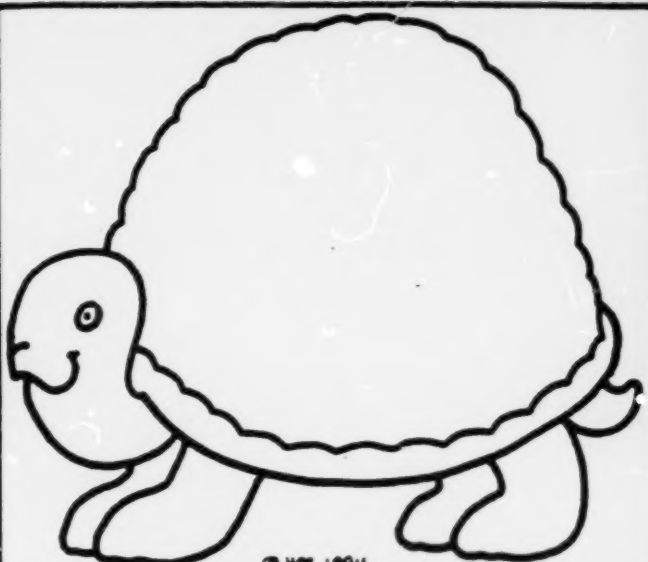
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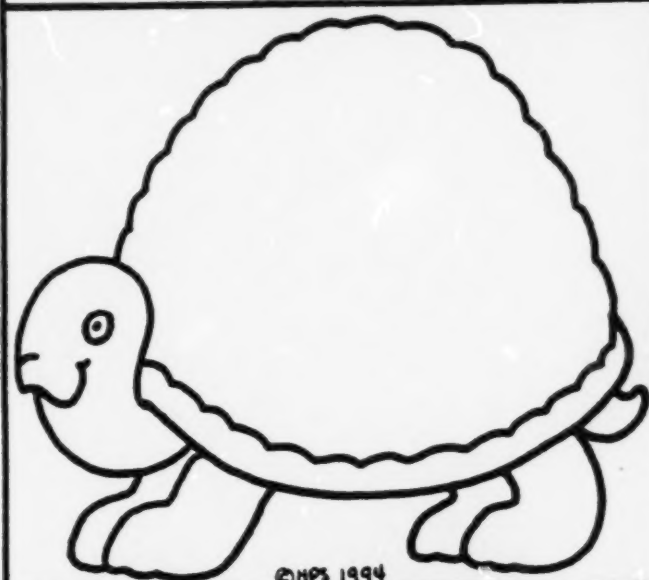
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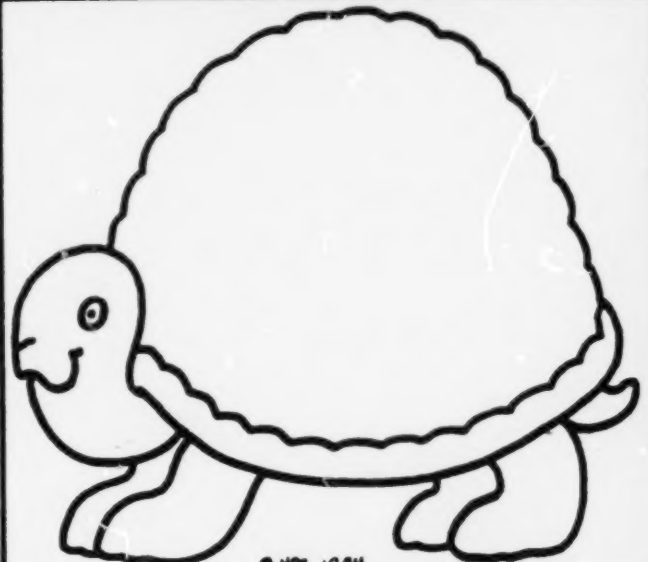
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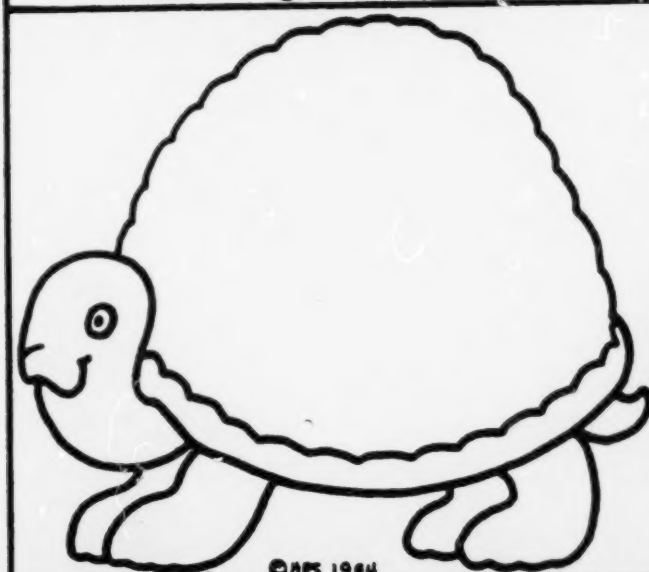
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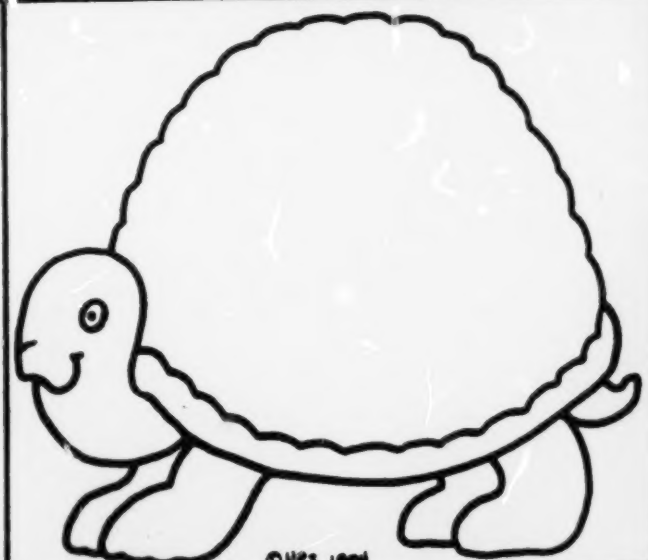
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Take-Home Activity

Alphabet Letters

After your child has had experience with matching pictures and shapes, he will probably be ready for matching letters. Being able to see that two letters are the same or different is an important skill as your child begins to read.

Materials in this packet:

- 26 trucks with lower case letters
- 26 cars with lower case letters

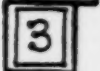
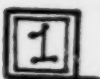
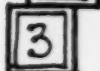
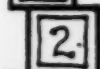
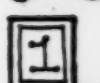
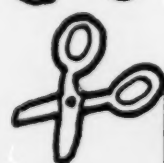
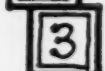
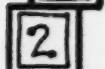
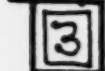
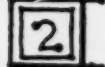
How to play with your child:

Take the truck and car cards out of this packet. Line up the trucks (not in ABC order) and stack the cars in a pile. Choose one car at a time and match it to the truck with the same lower case letter. As your child matches the letters, take the pairs away so there are fewer and fewer cards to look at. If your child has difficulty looking at all 26 letters at one time, give him only 6 or 13 letters to work with at a time.

Your child may be able to match the letters without naming them--and that's OK. If your child does not know the letter names yet, name the letters as he matches each pair. Don't expect your child to name the letter with you. If you name the letters as you play, your child will, with time, learn the letter names himself.

Extension:

Read some good ABC books from the library. Ask your librarian for some suggestions. Look for lower case letters in the newspaper and encourage your child to find matching letters. Use large headlines and advertisements because the print will be larger and easier to see.

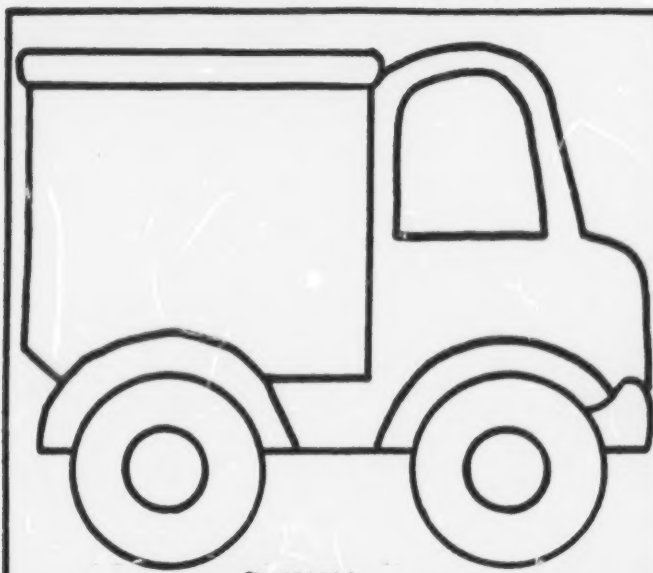


To make the game:

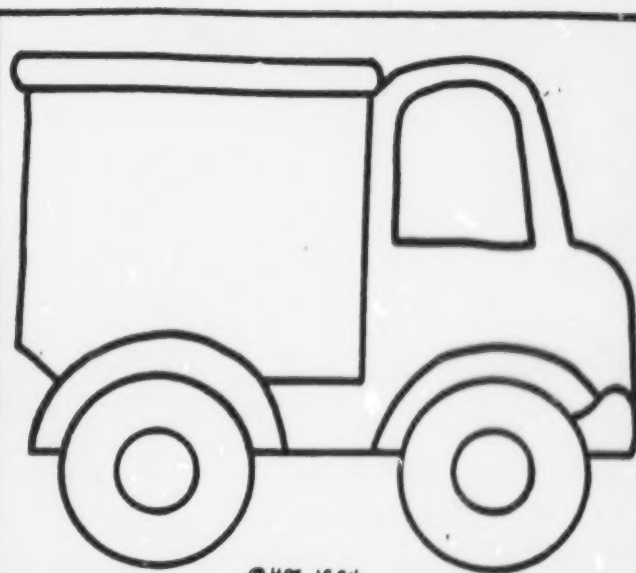
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
5 copies of the truck page
5 copies of the car page

Directions:

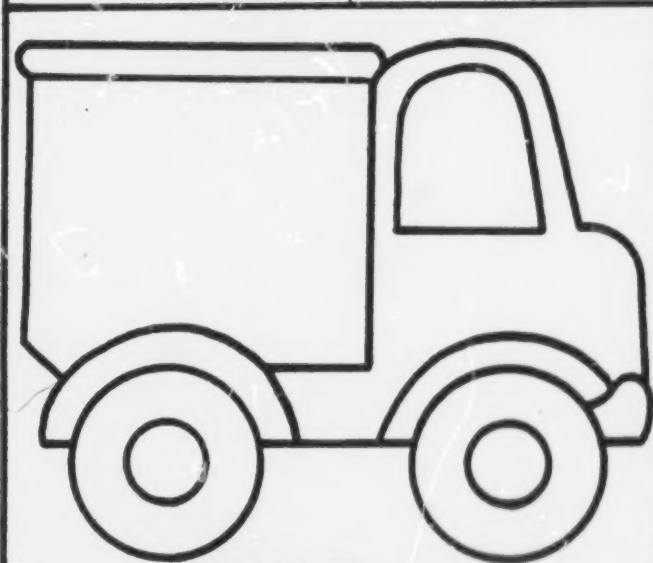
1. Write the lowercase letters on the trucks.
2. Write the lower case letters on the cars.
3. Laminate and cut the cards apart.
4. Laminate the parent direction sheet.
5. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



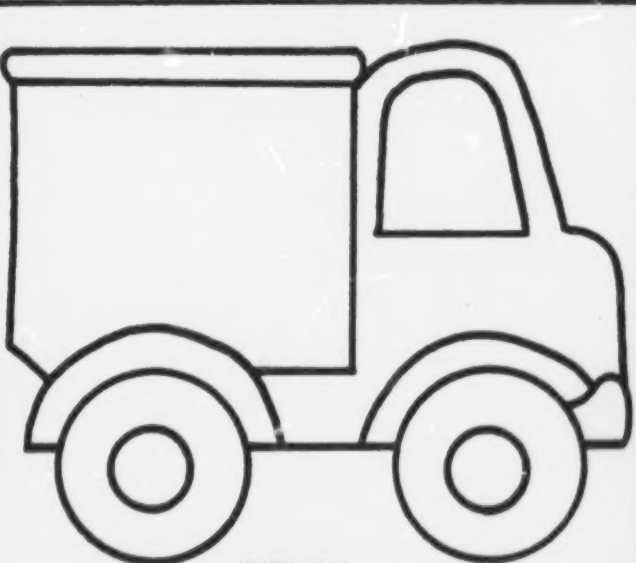
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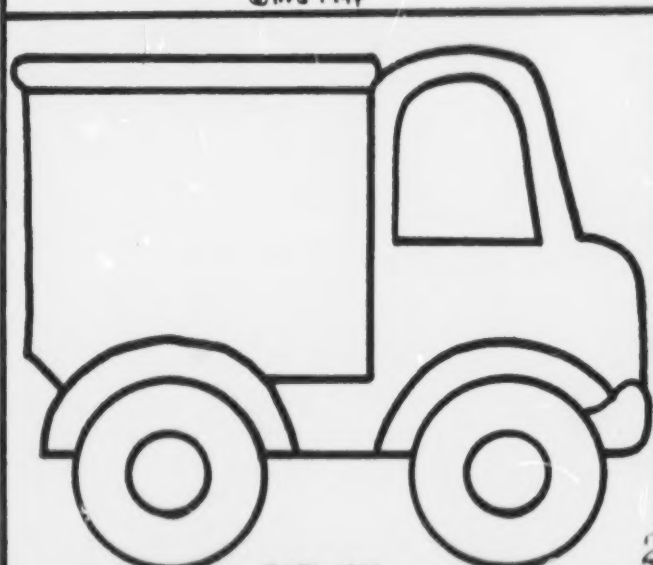
© HPS 1994



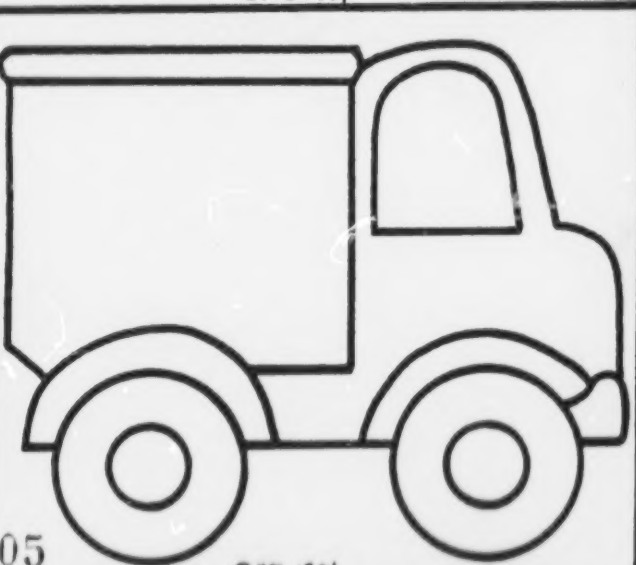
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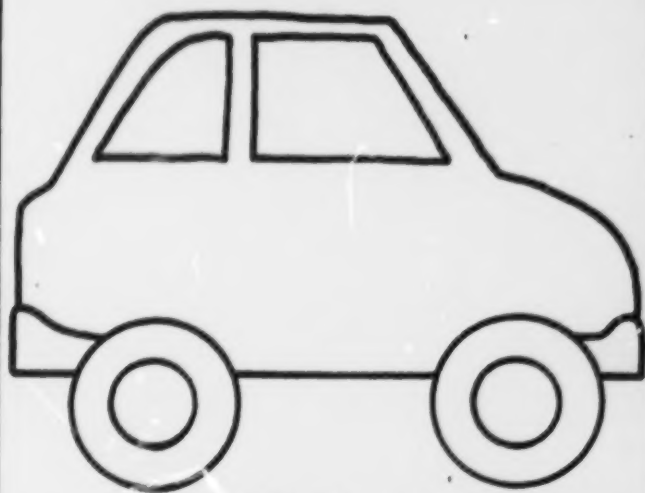
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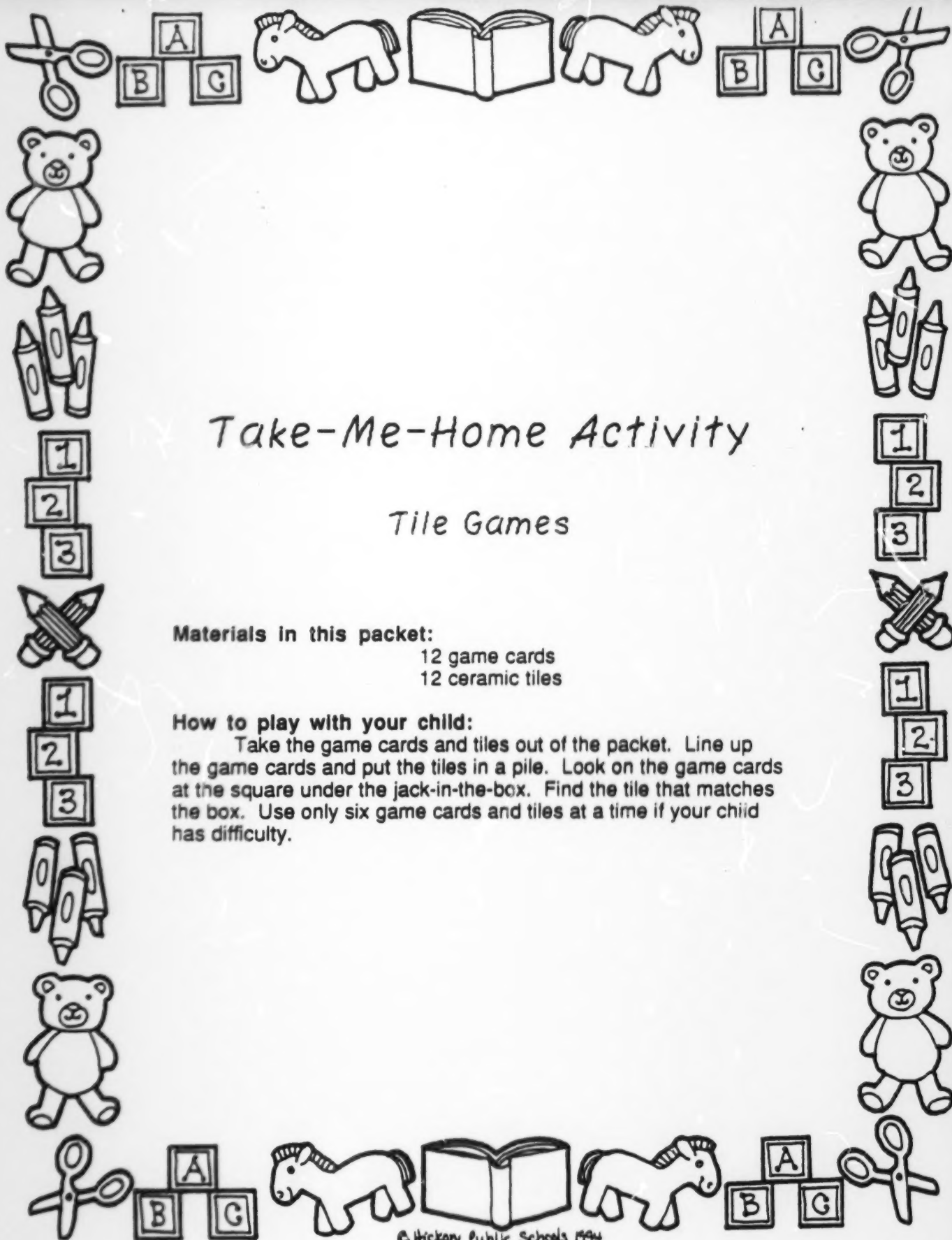
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Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

- 12 game cards
- 12 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the square under the jack-in-the-box. Find the tile that matches the box. Use only six game cards and tiles at a time if your child has difficulty.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
3 copies of the jack-in-the-box page
12 2" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets and cut apart.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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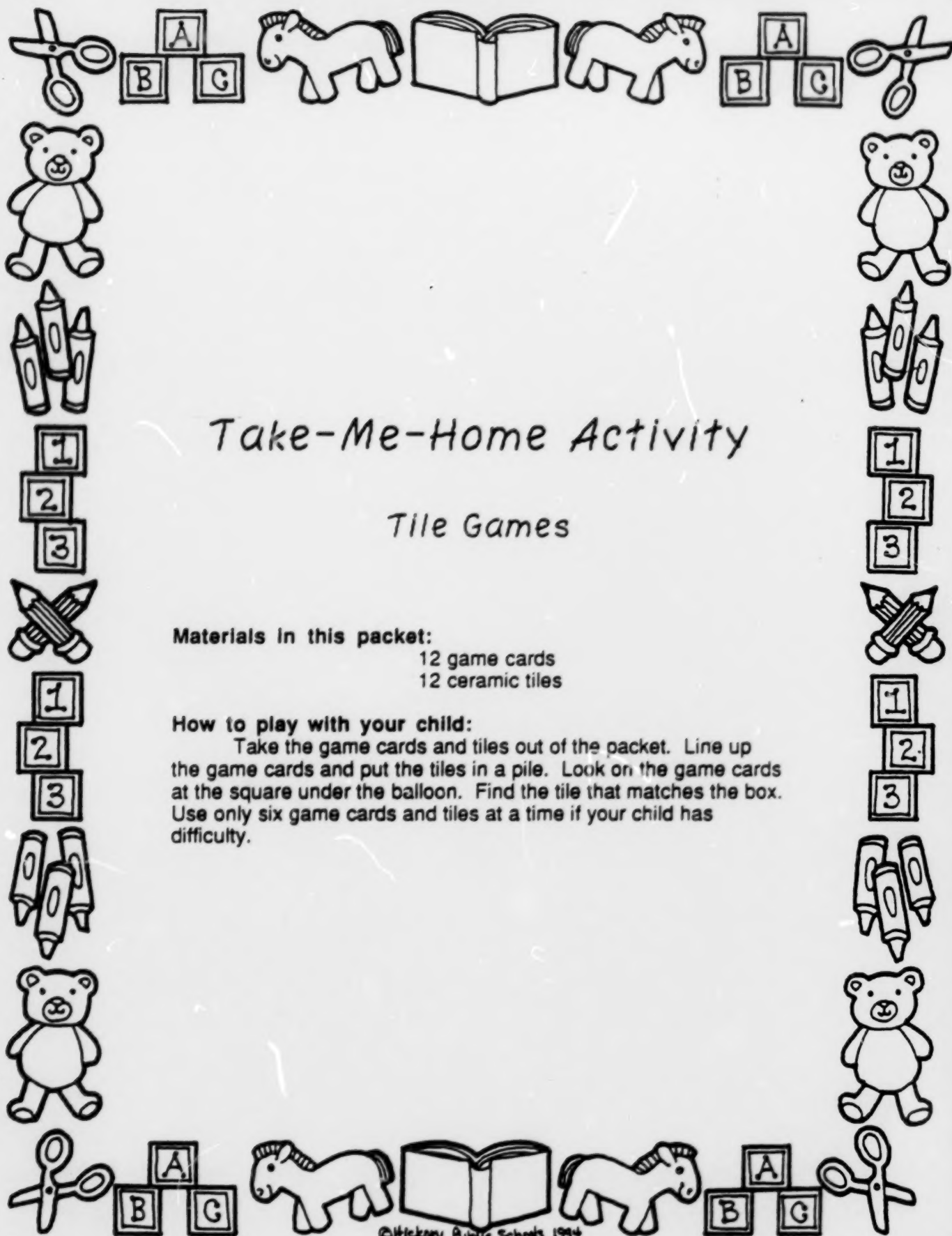


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209

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Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

- 12 game cards
- 12 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

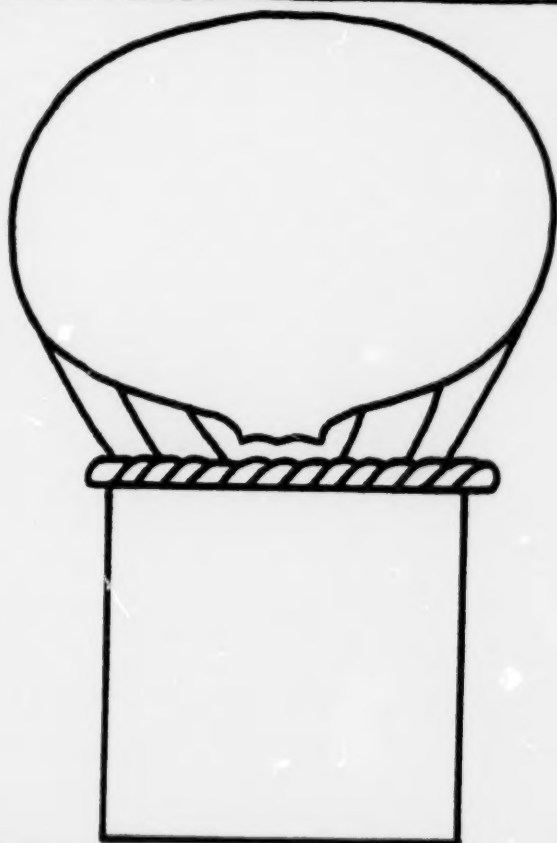
Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the square under the balloon. Find the tile that matches the box. Use only six game cards and tiles at a time if your child has difficulty.

To make the game:

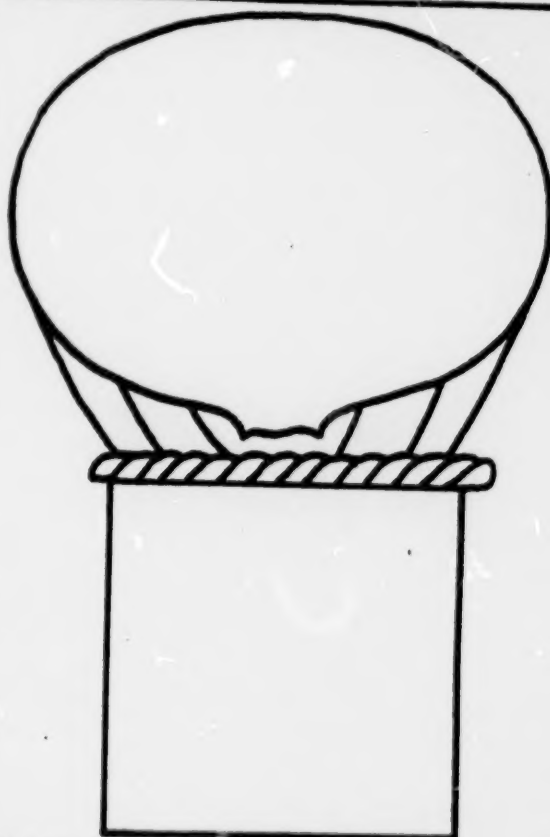
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
3 copies of the balloon page
12 2" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

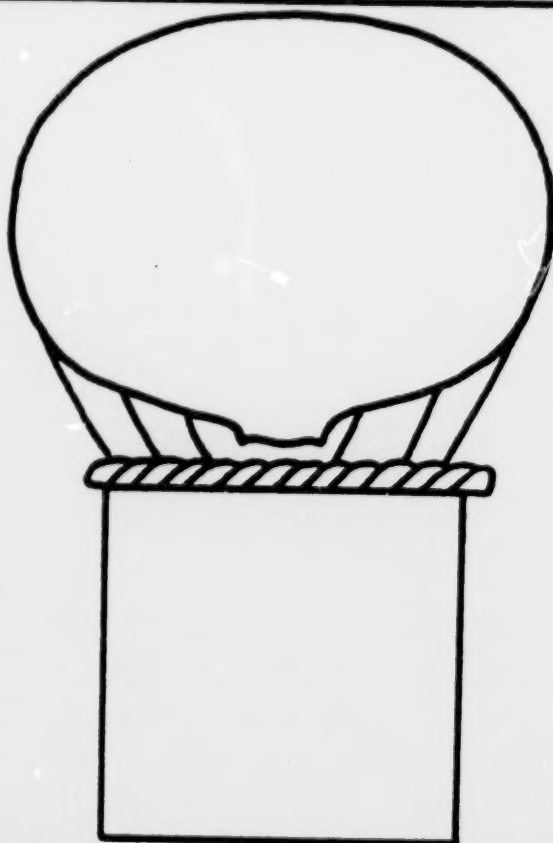
1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets and cut apart.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



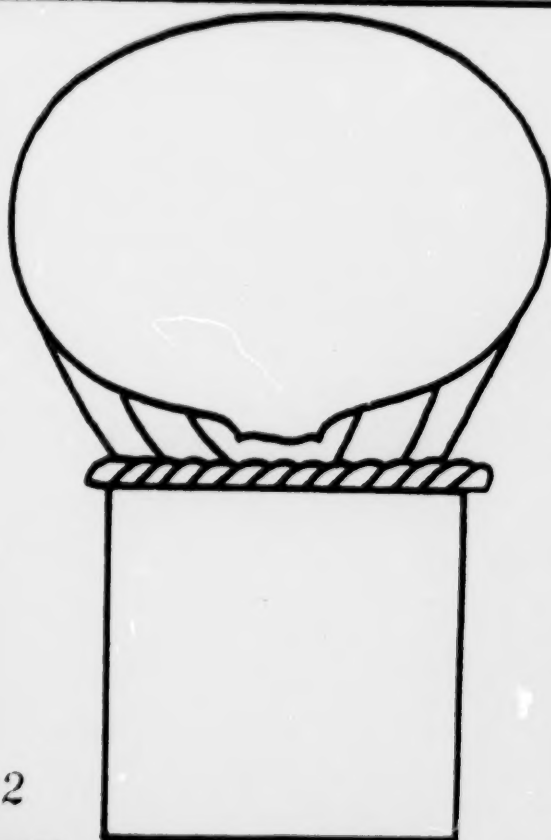
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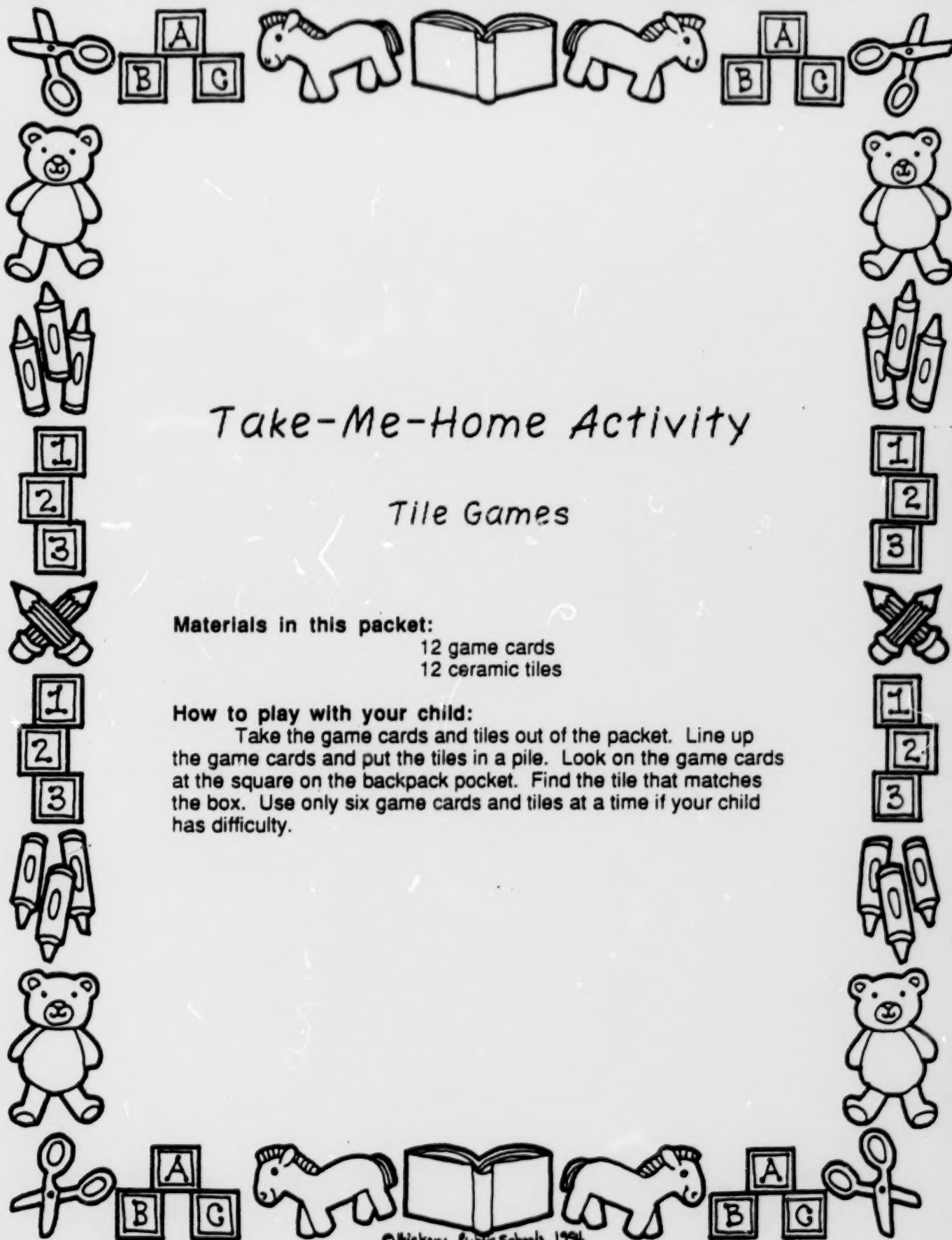


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212

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Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

- 12 game cards
- 12 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the square on the backpack pocket. Find the tile that matches the box. Use only six game cards and tiles at a time if your child has difficulty.

To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
3 copies of the backpack page
12 2" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets and cut apart.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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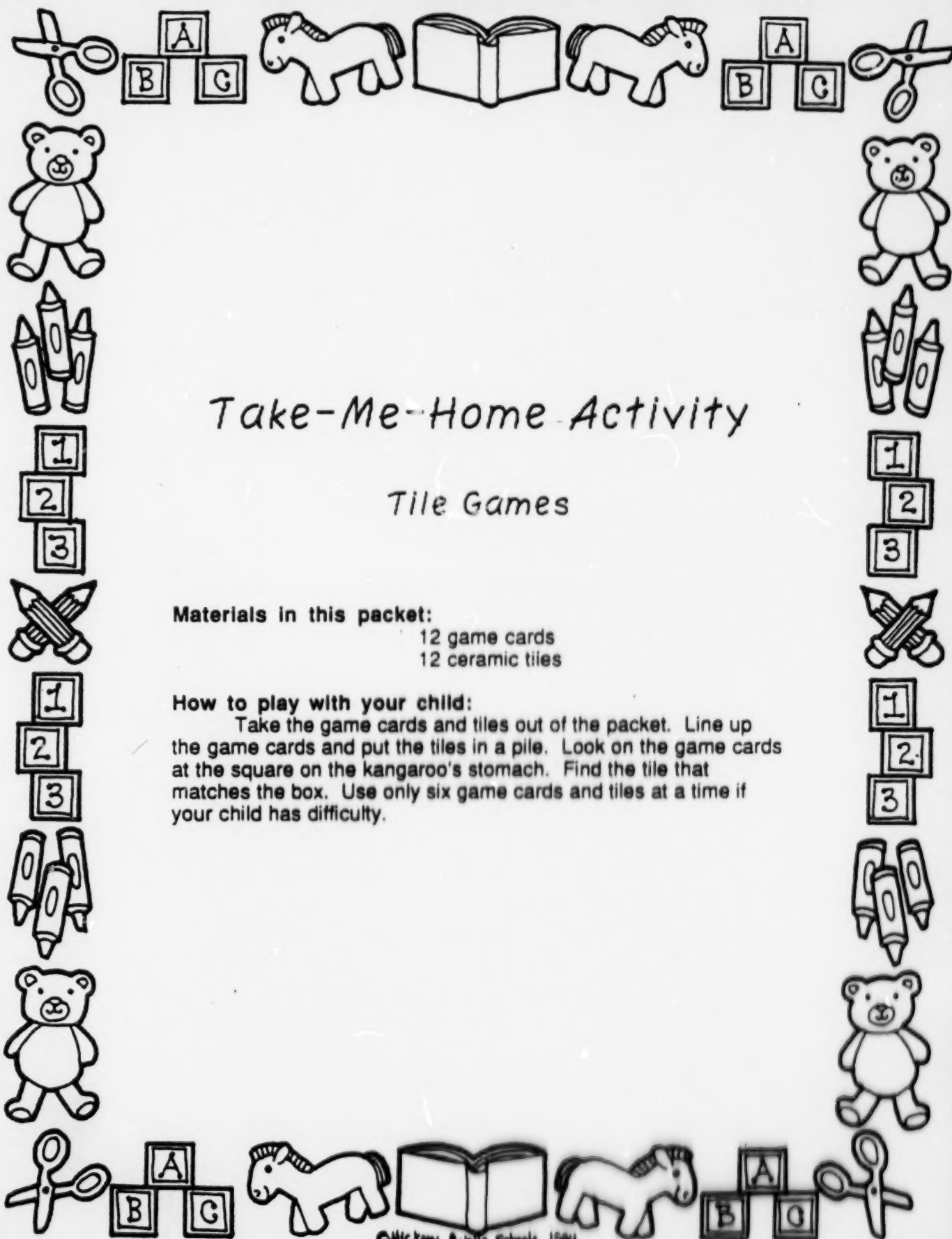
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Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

- 12 game cards
- 12 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

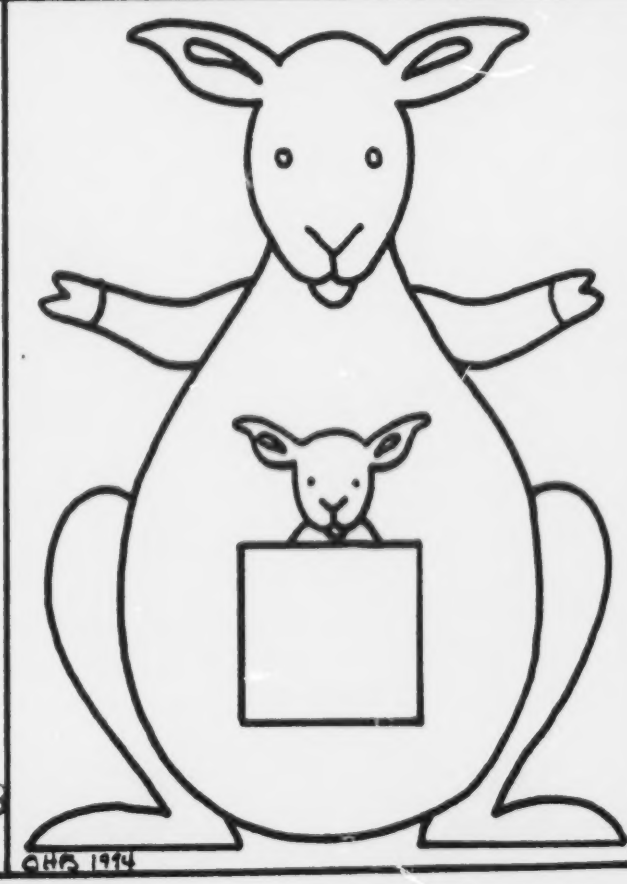
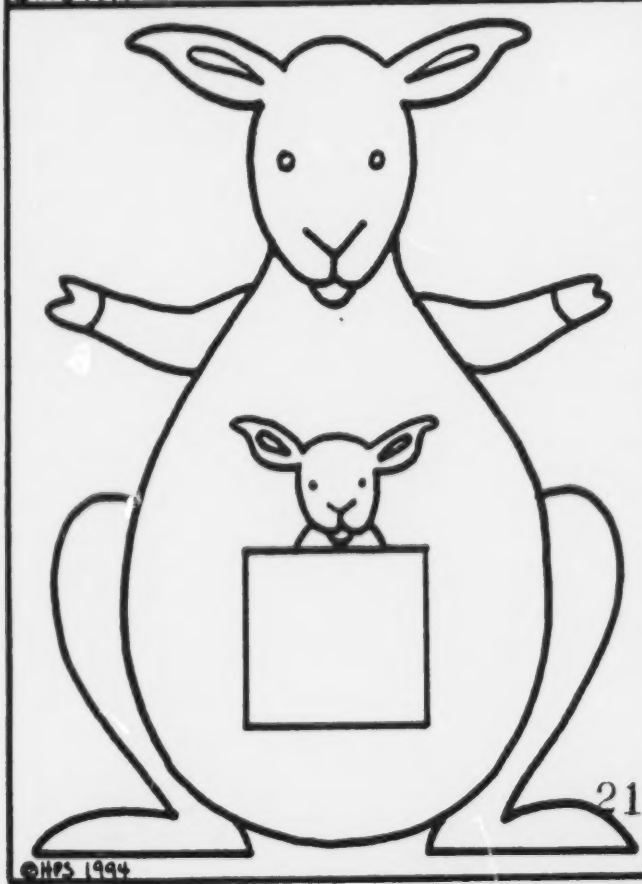
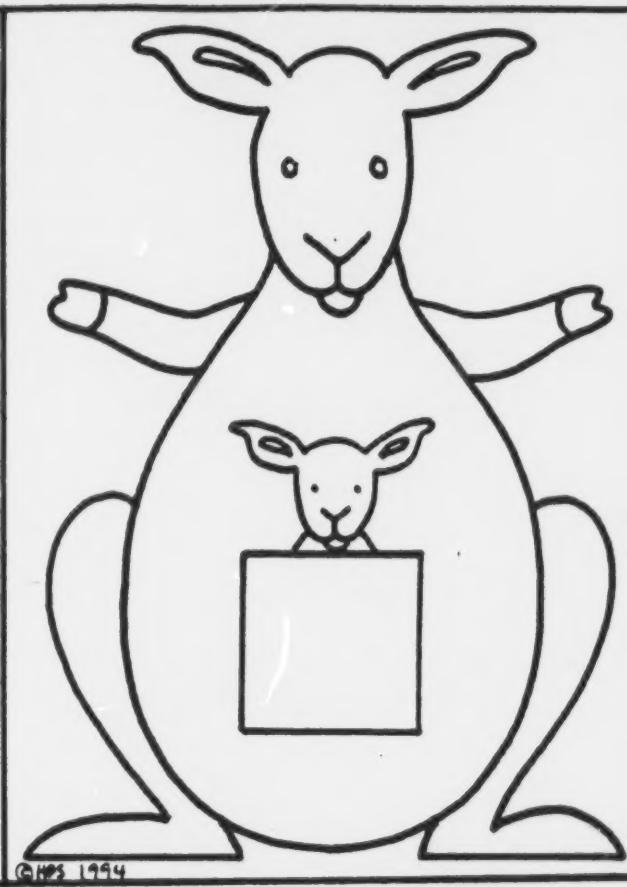
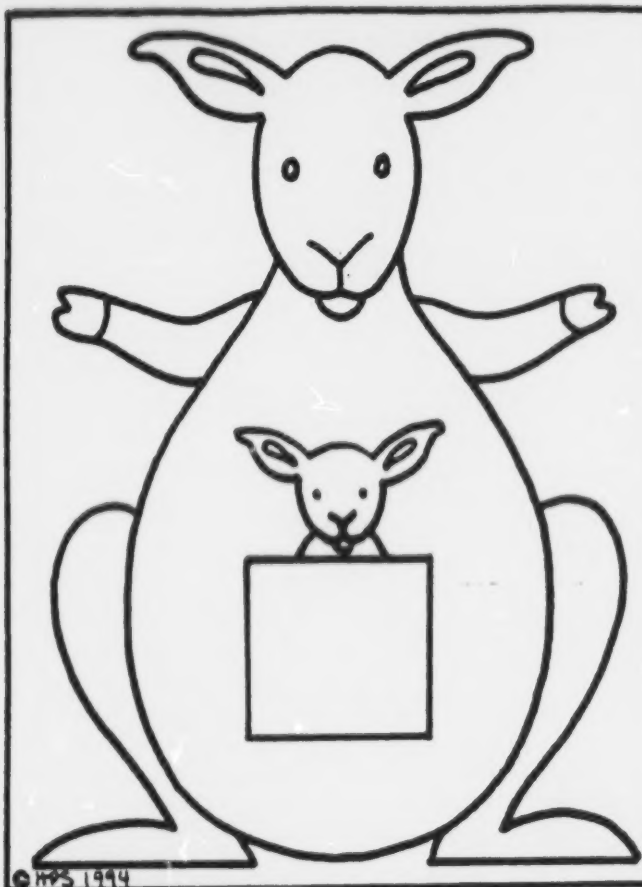
Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the square on the kangaroo's stomach. Find the tile that matches the box. Use only six game cards and tiles at a time if your child has difficulty.

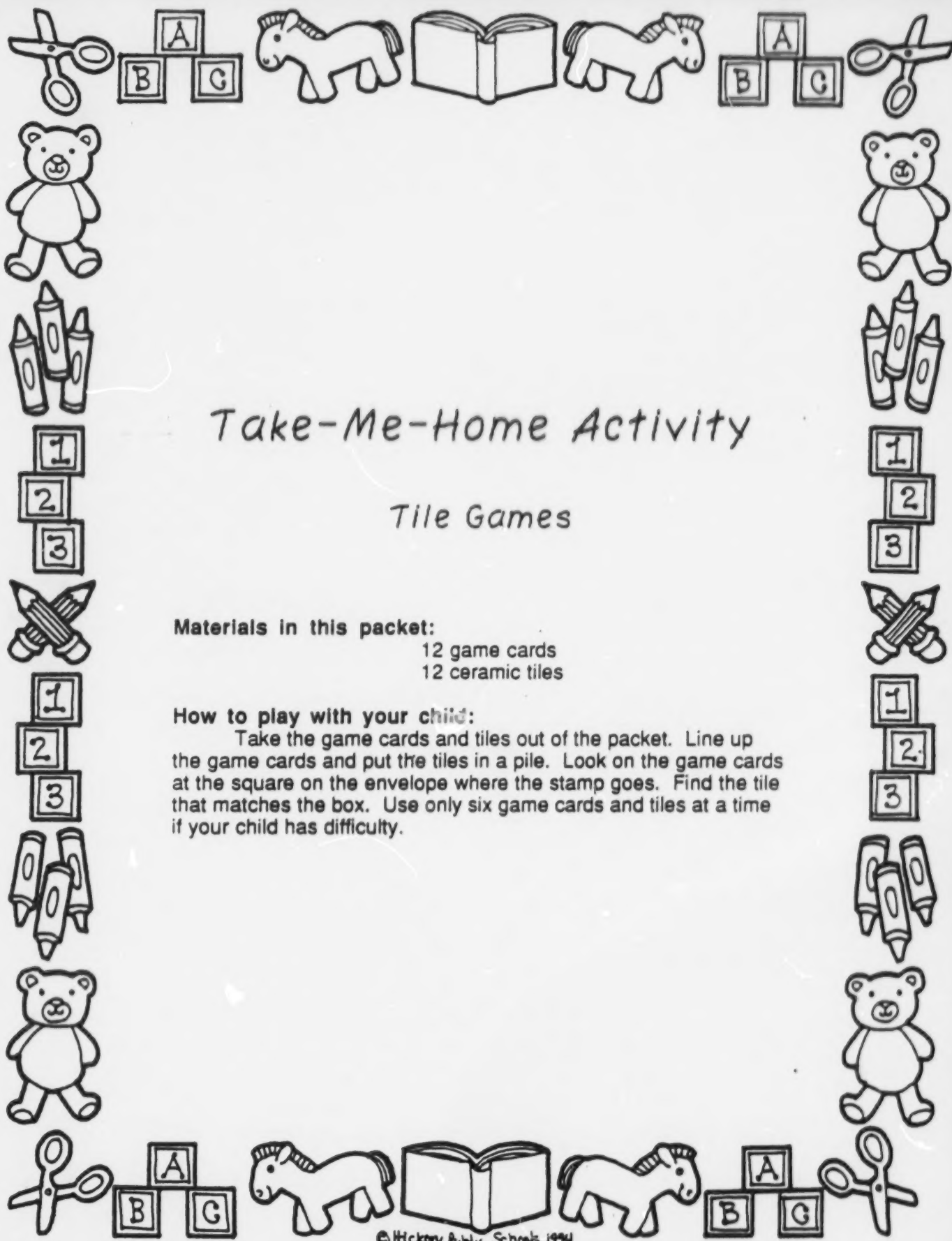
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
3 copies of the kangaroo page
12 1" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets and cut apart.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.





Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

- 12 game cards
- 12 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the square on the envelope where the stamp goes. Find the tile that matches the box. Use only six game cards and tiles at a time if your child has difficulty.

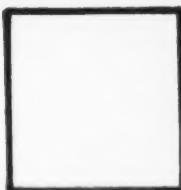
To make the game:

You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
3 copies of the mail letter page
12 1" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets and cut apart.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.

To: _____



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To: _____



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To: _____



221

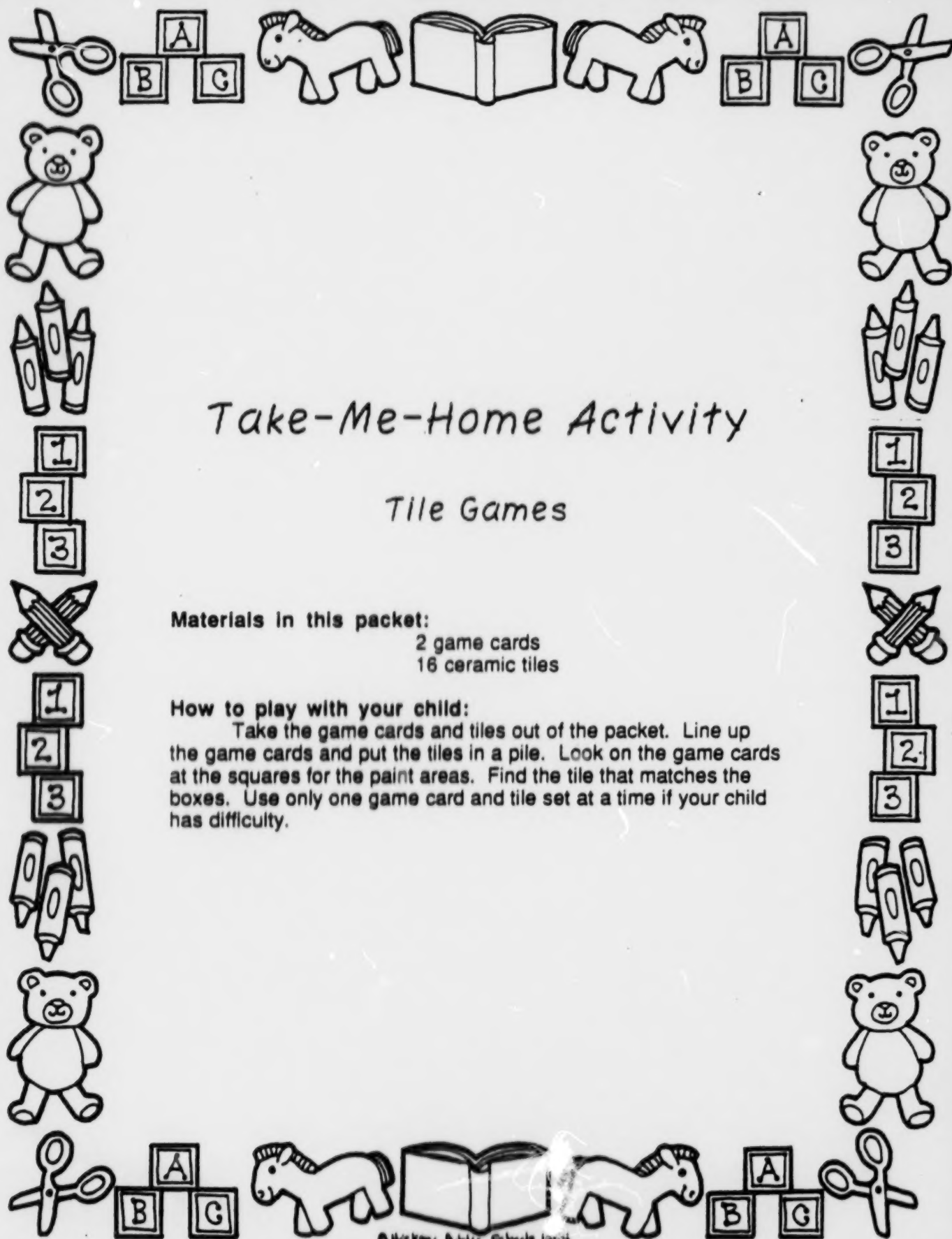
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To: _____



222

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Take-Home Activity

Tile Games

Materials in this packet:

2 game cards
16 ceramic tiles

How to play with your child:

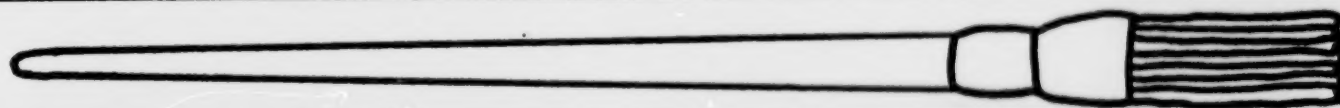
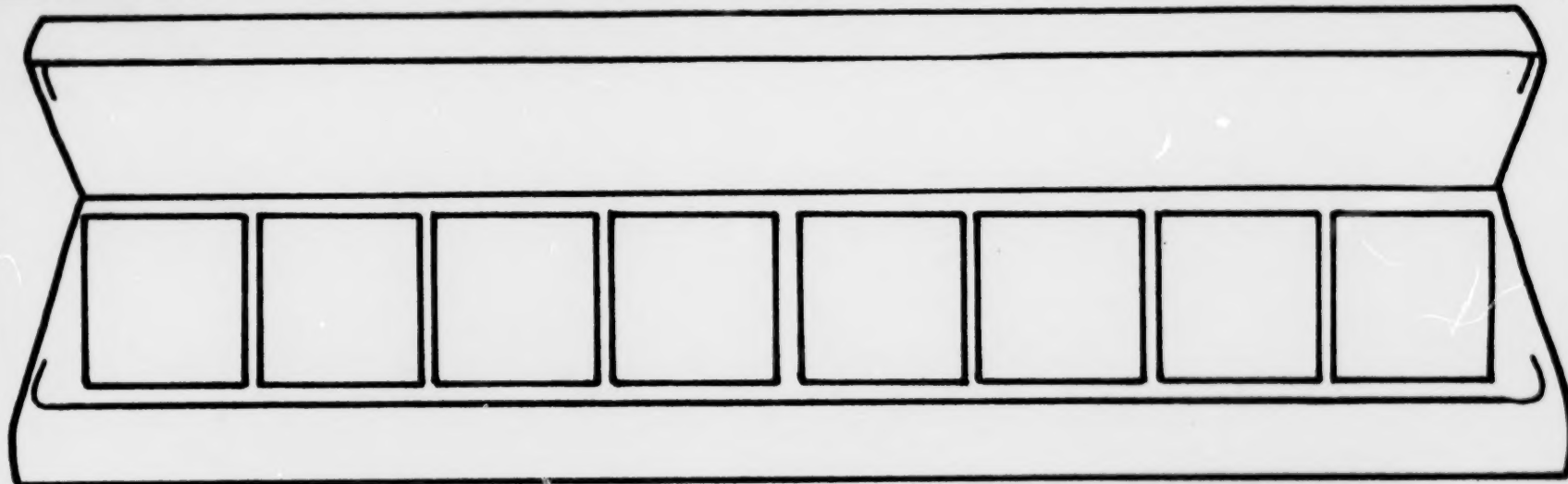
Take the game cards and tiles out of the packet. Line up the game cards and put the tiles in a pile. Look on the game cards at the squares for the paint areas. Find the tile that matches the boxes. Use only one game card and tile set at a time if your child has difficulty.

To make the game:

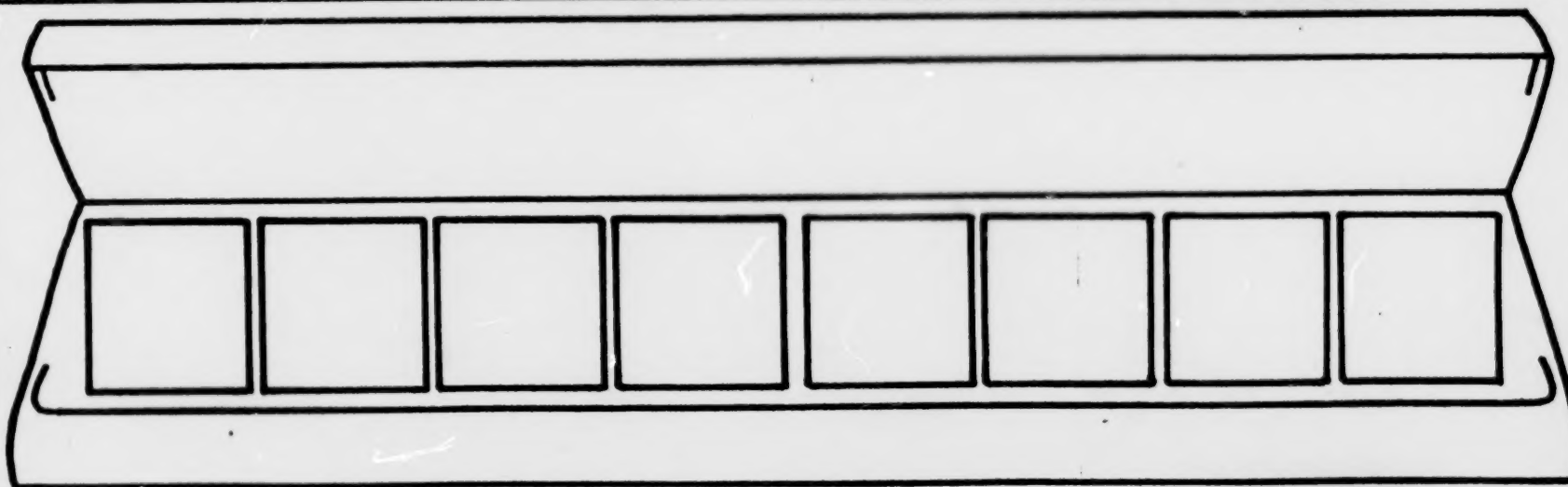
You will need: 1 copy of the parent direction page
1 copy of the paint box page
16 1" square ceramic tiles

Directions:

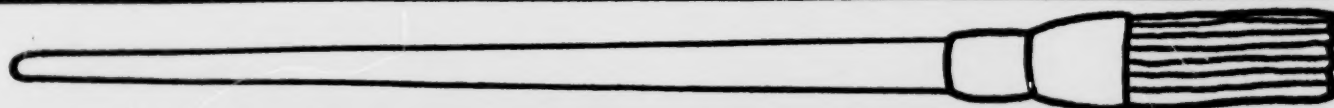
1. Color the cards.
2. Select a skill you want to work on.
3. Label the boxes on the sheet with the "task."
4. With a permanent marker, label the ceramic tiles for each box on the sheet to match and complete the task.
5. Laminate the sheets.
6. Laminate the parent direction page.
7. Store everything in a tyvek envelope for check-out.



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225



226

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